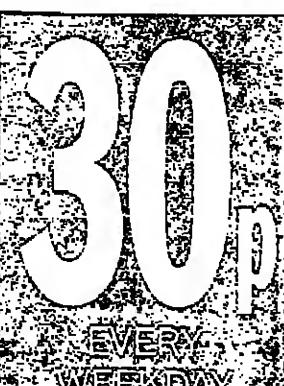


Used to thank God that had two alusaid two legs. Now I'm grateful? that I've got one of each'

> BLOWN APART IN A MINEFIELD: CHRIS MOON'S COMPELLING STORY, p16,17





Minister's forceful intervention helps Kosovans to reach British haven

Short takes on border guards over refugees

FROM DANIEL MCGRORY AT BRAZDE REFUGEE CAMP

MOBBED by bewildered refugees, Clare Short confronted Macedonian officials yesterday and urged them 12 to stop obstructing families escaping from Kosovo.

The International Development Secretary demanded that II busbads of refugees, who had spent 12 hours stranded on a roadside near in the frontier, be allowed into a relief camp built by British soldiers and then helped the frightened and frail to leave the first bus. Two had died

while stranded the previous night. "We have to quickly move the thousands trapped in those horrific conditions on the border before more die." she said.

Macedonian officials showed litthe inclination to open their border, despite condemnation by aid organisations and the attempts of the short-tempered British minister. She was inspecting the still-empty refugee camp at Brazde when two Macedonian ministers arrived by chance and blamed Nato for the

delay in filling the 200 tents. Ms Short forcibly disputed that daim and persuaded Aleksander Dimitrov, the Foreign Minister, to contact his Prime Minister by mobile telephone to order the first refugees into the camp, built on a

private airfield. Even then a zealous policeman in sunglasses tried to turn the buses away. The faces pressed against the window despaired at the prospect of

being moved again. British troops looked on with obvious frustration, unable to intervene. Then Ms Short and her entourage - including Brigadier Tim Cross. who is running Nato's emergency re-

lief operation — appeared. Together they led weary families to the lines of green tents and to troops waiting to hand out food and water. For some it was their first meal in 48 hours.

Ms Short's actions on the ground contrasted with a sense of confusion in London over how many refugees might come to Britain. Downing Street and Jack Straw, the Home Secretary, said on Sunday that "some thousands" would be welcomed, but Tony Blair gave a warning yesterday against any premature action that would send the wrong message to President

Milosevic. The Prime Minister said that, although he was still committed to accepting several thousand refugees if necessary, the "ultimate objective" was to repatriate them to Kosovo.

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The best place for them to be cared for was in Macedonia and Albania. "I emphasise again — and it's very important, or else Milosevic gets the wrong message here — these people need to go back to Kosovo where they live, where they want to be, and we will make sure that happens."

Ms Short told BBC Radio 4's Today programme yesterday: "All this talk of getting people out of the region is, in my view, irrelevant.

"I'm here in Macedonia and there are thousands and thousands of people on the other side of the border, not being fed, babies being born, people becoming sick. And if everyone is in a tizz in London talking about getting people out, it's irrele-

vant to the crisis we have here." When told that Mr Straw had announced that Britain would now accept thousands of refugees, she said: "I don't think this is helpful."

Officials said that the Govern-

ment's position was not inconsistent. However, it is clear that Nato's announcement on Sunday of the numbers that some European countries would be prepared to take caught ministers off guard.

A spokeswoman for the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees said that, whatever protestations were made of any refugee evacuations being temporary, some would inevitably settle in Britain and other Nato countries. Lyndall Sachs said: "Some of the refugees just won't be able to go home, it will be impossible. You can't make people go home if they do not have a home to go to."

At Brazde yesterday, when asked how many refugees Britain would take, Ms Short replied: "Don't know, don't care. That's up to London to decide. Let's get people out of that squalor."

The Nato soldiers at the camp were caught by surprise when the refugees turned up, instead of going, as they should have done, to another camp two miles away. Ms Short told them to forget the rules and just "dig in and help".

British troops agreed to fence off authorities insisted, but are refusing to guard the compound to stop refugees escaping. Riot police immediately appeared at the gates, though too late to stop some who begged for lifts on the roadside to reach relatives in the capital. Skopje.

Mr Dimitrov was unrepentant at his country's behaviour towards the refugees. "Teil me any country that would just throw open its borders if 200,000 people showed up," he said.



Clare Short leading Kosovan refugees into the relief camp built by British troops at Brazde

BALKANS WAR DAY 13

Mahia Islama was on the run from the Serbs for three days when she gave on a pile of old dothes in a snow-filled forest. There were no blankets, no water, no medicine. There was an audience of 200. Janine di Giovanni reports on page 3

Not satisfied with using young men as human shields against Nato attacks, nor with the summary execution of children or the burning of homes, Serbian border guards have added another atrocity to their comrades' crimes: rape. Sam Kiley reports from

Albania on page 2 A political rift in Belgrade has led to confusion over the number of casualties caused by the Nato bombings. While the media want to fan the flames of patriotism. hardline political leaders want to keep the outside world in the dark.

Eve-Ann Prentice reports on page 5 ■ Clear weather over Kosovo led to an intensification of Nato airstrikes yesterday, but also a sharp increase in the number of Yugoslav anti-aircraft attacks. But while Nato is ready to take a more aggressive

approach to bombing

Yugoslav forces in the

province, they are having difficulty finding them. Michael Evans reports on pages 6 and 8

■ Madeleine Albright fled Nazism as a child. then Stalinism. It is little wonder that she is making a personal crusade of ending ethnic cleansing in the former Yugoslavia.

Ben Macintyre reports on page 9

Other war reports _____2-9 Libby Purves... Michael Gove... Leading article...

Disease stalks the muddy riverbank

RED CROSS teams are concerned that epidemics are taking hold among the 40,000 refugees stranded on a riverbank beyond the reach of

Macedonian border police are refusing medical staff permission to go to the sick, so the victims have to be dragged up a muddy embankment at the Blace crossing point, where one

tent is serving as a field hospital. Stephen Tomlin, vice president of the international medical group, said that in recent days cases of hepatitis. pneumonia and tuberculosis had been discovered in the camp. "When you have a large number of people Each night, the numbers of the dead and

dying increase, reports Daniel McGrory

and sanitation is poor, there is a risk of diarrhoea and dysentery. With children it is measles. We must get sanitation to these people before disease takes a grip."

Aid workers are also afraid that as the temperatures rise after a week of freezing rain, cholera may break out. A Red Cross spokesman said: "Every day makes the likelihood of epidemics more likely. That is why these people need to be moved fast and clean

water and sanitation brought in immediately." Nato medics, with their army field hospitals, are not allowed

near the border to help. With no sanitation, no shelter and no running water, the numbers of dead and dying increase daily. Most of the 30 refugees who have died in the past 72 hours were elderly people suffering from exhaustion and dehydration. "After what they have been through, their bodies could take no

more," the spokesman said. Other victims have been women going into labour. Two died in childbirth last

night, as did their babies. The medical care the Red Cross can provide at its tent is rudimentary. One doctor said: "We can't perform emergency surgery and for serious illness we have to rely on the Macedonians to take them to hospital in Skop-

je, 20 kilometres away. "Those with conditions like asthma cannot get the medical help they need, so things that are treatable become acute and can be fatal."

Dr Stuttaford, page 2

Couple saved from sea after helicopter crash

BY CHRISTINE MIDDAP

A PREGNANT woman and her art dealer husband survived nearly two hours in icy waters after their helicopter packed with works of art crashed off Dorset yesterday.

The coastguard said that Paul and Lisa Burgess, from Knotty Green, Buckinghamshire, were about half an hour from death when they were found, surrounded by

their wrecked paintings. Mrs Burgess, 27, "was so traumatised that her hands had to be prised free from the grabrail of the helicopter," a rescuer said.

tish halv L5000t Luxembourg Lf 110: Madeira Esc 20t Maha 80c. Morocco Dir 30.00: Norway Kr 200t Portugal Esc 280: Spain Pts 400: Sweden Skr 200: Switzerland S Frs 6.00: Turisia Din 3.200: The alarm was raised just Periodicals Postage Paid at Rahway Nj Postmaster: Send address corrections to: The Times c/o Mercury before midday when Mr Burgess, 37, who is also believed to work for a computer software firm, radioed: "We are lost in dense fog and all I can see is cliffs." Seconds later the Bell Jetranger crashed into the sea about two miles from

Lyme Bay. They were picked up by a fishing boat, and transferred



Paul Burgess is helped ashore by lifeboatman David Street

to the Lyme Regis inshore lifeboat. But when they reached the shore, they refused to get into another helicopter to be flown to hospital, preferring to go by road. Neither was seriously in-

jured — Mr Burgess broke his left arm and Mrs Burgess had cuts and bruises to her face — and they were discharged last night.

Photographs, page 12

Sanctions against Libya are lifted

By James Bone and Philip Webster

LIBYA faces a compensation bill of hundreds of millions of pounds if the two men handed over yesterday to face trial for the Lockerbie disaster are convicted.

The surrender of Abdel Baset Ali Mohamed al-Megrahi and al-Amin Khalifa Fhimah led to the immediate suspension of the UN sanctions against Libya which have

been in force since 1992. The UN will review the sanctions issue in three months, by which time the Security Council should have recieved a report from Kofi Annan, the UN Secretary-General, on whether Libya has renounced terrorism and agreed to pay compensation. sentation. Although insurance claims have been met, no formal compensation has been paid

to the familes of the 270 people who died in the 1988 Pan Am bombing over Scotland. UN officials said that Libya had made clear in private negotiations that it was ready

to compensate relatives if the two suspects were convicted by the Scottish court convened in The Netherlands. However, a clear commitment is needed from Tripoli to pay whatever level of dam-

ages is assessed. Mr Annan said he was confident that the two suspects would receive a fair trial before the transplanted Scottish

He said the transfer of the suspects to The Netherlands had gone smoothly and that the Security Council had acted immediately to suspend the sanctions on arms sales, air travel, imports of oil technology and diplomatic repre-

The decision means that Libyans will once again be able to fly freely into the country without having to travel overland from Egypt or Tunisia, and can acquire spare parts for its oil industry.

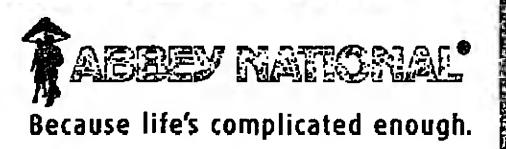
Suspects arrive, page 10



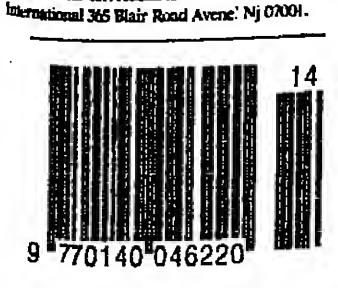
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Serbs make rape a weapon of war

Groups of silent women speak volumes, writes Sam Kiley from Kukes

NOT satisfied with using young men as human shields against Nato and Kosovo Liberation Army attacks, nor with summary execution of chil-dren and the burning of homes to accelerate the exodus of Kosovo Albanians. Serbian border guards have taken to adding one more atrocity -

Their victims are reluctant to talk about what happens in the border post at Monice. through which more than 200,000 people have been herded over the last few weeks. But the faraway stares in their tearful eyes, their torn clothing and the despair of the families of the victims speak volumes.

Just as the extremists of Bosnia's Serb Republic pursued a campaign against Muslims which included the forced impregnation of many Bosnian women, so the border guards of Monice clearly hope to father scores of Muslim children currying Serb blond.

According to human rights groups and investigators from the War Crimes Tribunal at The Hague, and the victims themselves. Kosovo Albanian women are being picked out at the border as they wait with their lamilies to cross into Albunia, taken to a building not far away and violated.

"There have been so many credible reports of this sort of thing that we are convinced it is part of a systematic cumpaign of sexual abuse. The whole level of atrocities being committed in Kosovo has overwhelmed us. We are going to have to bring in extra investigators," said a member of the tribunal team in Kukes, the nearest town to the horder

crossing. The Serbs' method is simple. They select the women they fancy tormenting as they approach the final crossing point with their families, who-are ordered to keep travelling into Albania. 🖫

They are then taken away,



A Madcedonian soldier stands guard yesterday before several thousand refugees in a hastily-erected reception centre at the border crossing point of Blace. The women keep silent about the campaign of rape

lives. Hours, perhaps a day passes for the families, and then those who survive the ordeal are sent on their way with a casual wave.

At Monice their families keep a vigil standing in silent huddles by the metal barrier. Reluctant to admit what is happening to their daughters. these members of a society who view rape as the ultimate shame for a woman, say: "We were separated, and praying that the Serbs will let them

- When the young women are reunited, there is no celebration that they have survived. They fall in silence into their weeping and begging for their parents' arms. Hiding their

faces they rejoin the huge throng of miserable humanity - again in silence.

Overwhelmed by the logisties of coping with an influx of refugees which is expected to reach 250,000 in the next day or so, and climb to half a million or more, the Albanian authorities and the few aid agencies which have reacted to the Kosovo catastrophe have been unable to offer any kind of help to the rape victims.

"There is simply nothing we can do but hope that the families of the victims are strong enough and supportive enough of these young women. But if any are pregnant as a result, they face a miserable

future of possible rejection by their families, or of raising a child conceived in hatred. That must be the worst thing anyone can inflict upon a woman." said a British aid worker

Yugoslavia. But the latest revelations appear to carry more weight with human rights groups who stand alongside the families of abducted women and teenage girls, helpless

'We are convinced it is a systematic campaign of sexual abuse'

in Kukes. There have been reports of rape and the use of Ko-"sovo Albanian women as sex slaves since the beginning of the forced exodus which came close on the heels of the start of Nato's air hombardments of

to do anything about what they are certain is going on behind the bulletproof glass of the Monice crossing.

Young men have been spared rape, but their life expectancy behind Serb lines

ed for them.

nian border.

Then, at gunpoint, they were ordered to stand in front of Serb trenches while the Serb artillery fired mortars

can be calculated in minutes.

Hague investigators are look-

ing into a number of credible

reports that up to 500 men

were marched into a field close

to where the KLA has been

fighting a rearguard action against the Serbs on the Alba-

Once in the field their resist-

ance was allegedly broken

down by being forced to stand

in freezing rain for several

hours. They were then driven

like carrle back into a barn and

ordered to dress in rags provid-

and heavier weapons at KLA positions, confident that they would not be the first victims if fire was returned. So far, The Hague said,

there had been only a handful of survivors from this latest alleged atrocity. In Kukes, the refugees said

that they were now pinning their hopes on Nato and the dim expectation of ground forces to save those still left in Kos-

Risolta Unico, a student from Daikovica who crossed into Albania in her slippers, had been spared the rapists because at Qafae Prushit the border is manned by professional Yugoslav soldiers who main-

tain a keen-eyed watch on heir Albanian counterparts.

They are burning our houstheir Albanian counterparts. es and killing the men. In the town there have been many rapes, but no one will speak of it. We need to be saved before

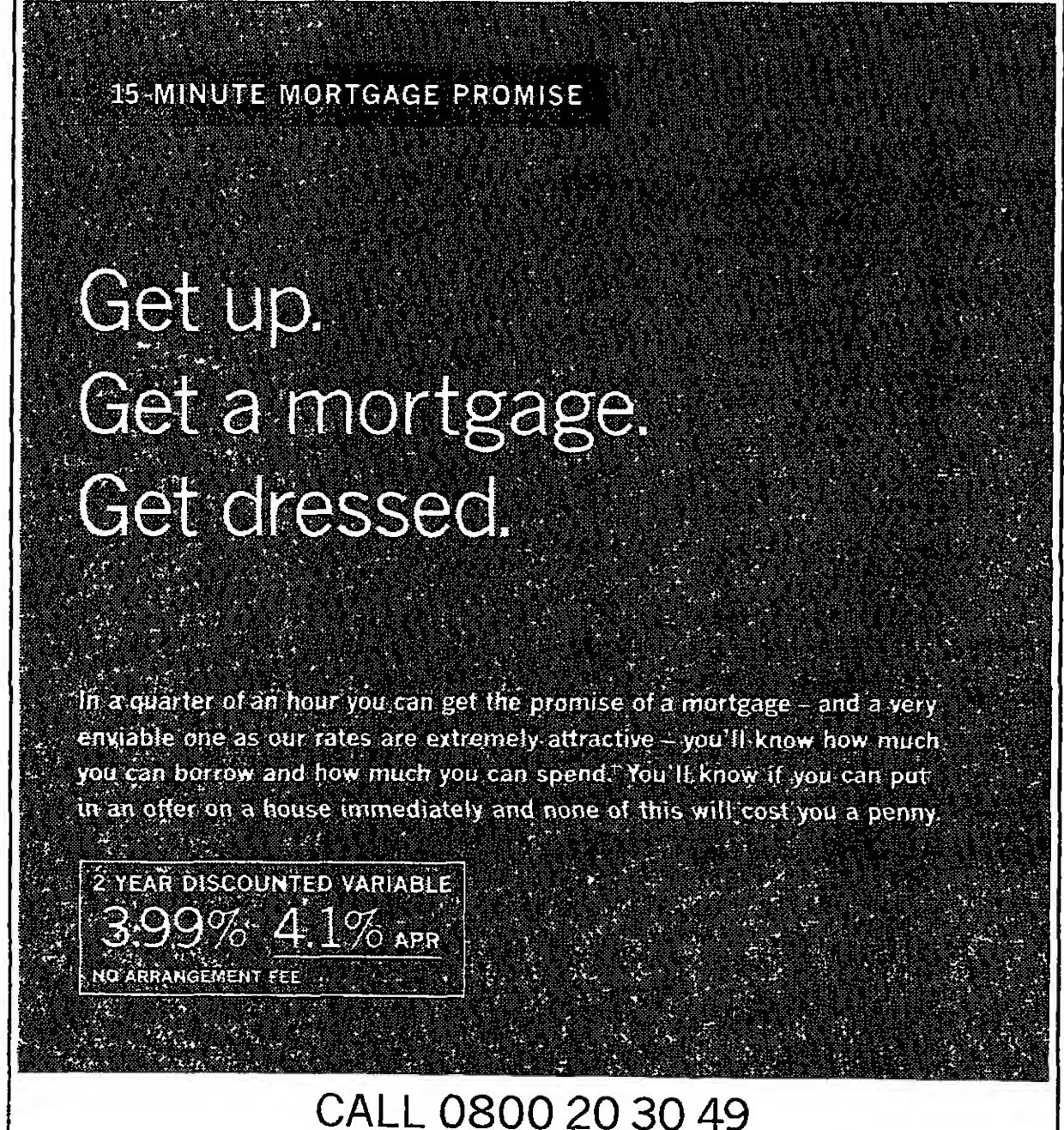
there is nothing left for Nato to worry about. Please tell the world that we are worth it, we are human beings not animals to be slaughtered." she cried. When told that the US had

ordered 24 Apache attack helicopters to Albania she broke into a broad smile. "First there will be helicopters, then there will be soldiers. Nato will not let us down. If they do not send troops, then what was the i point of the bombing?"

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MEDICAL BRIEFING

THE refugees from Kosovo. crowded together in wet, cold and insanitary circumstances so dire that when the Macedonian troops visit them they are issued with gas masks, will suffer diseases spread by poor sanitation and contaminated

The authorities will be expecting gastroenteritis from Salmonella, Shigella, pathogenic E.coli and giardiasis and Hepatitis A. Other infections spread by droplet infection. coughs and sneezes, which would in healthier situations cause no more than a cough or cold, will when caught by someone whose immune system has been undermined by fear, terror, cold and starva-

tion, result in pneumonia. Many people harbour opportunistic organisms which remain quiescent in any, or many, of the body's systems but will if the patient's resistance to infection is lowered. cause serious troubles with respiration, the gastro-intestinal,

ovo's third largest city, have

been forced into Serbia after

Nato bombers destroyed a

key road bridge in Kosovo, of-

Muslims and ethnic Albanians from Mitrovica, about 15

miles north-west of Pristina.

began to arrive at Montene-

gro's eastern border late last

week and the flow increased

But the numbers were reduced to a trickle yesterda af-

ter Nato bombers had de-

stroyed the bridge, Kosovo.

A spokeswoman for the

United Nations High Com-

missioner for Refugees said

she believed that they had been diverted to the Serb

town of Novi Pazar, about 15

miles further northwest.

From there, she expected

them to travel south into

blocking their escape route.

ficials said yesterday.

at the weekend.

Refugees forced into

Serbia after Nato

blocks escape route

FROM REUTERS IN ROZAJE, MONTENEGRO

REFUGEES ficeing to Mon- Montenegro, which forms tenegro from Mitrovica, Kos- part of the Federal Republic

urinary tract or skin. As well as this ever-present threat of death and disease from opportunistic infections, there are now, apparently, three main causes of anxiety. There is an outbreak of Hepatitis A. bacterial pneumonia is rampant and there is an epidemic of measles.

Ex-servicemen who fought on the other side of the Adriatic in Italy in the 1939-45 war will not be surprised by reports of Hepatitis A. It was a constant scourge throughout the Italian campaign, despite the British Army's keen attention to latrine digging. It is doubtful if refugees could be similarly disciplined.

The virus causing Hepatitis

of Yugoslavia. It has dis-

tanced itself from Yugoslav

President Milosevic and has

opened its borders to the refu-

gees.
About 35,700 people fleeing

Kosovo have sought shelter

in Montenegro over the past

nine days, although some

Mitrovica is a large industrial town with mineral re-

Several hundred refugees

from the city crossed the Mon-

tenegrin frontier on Satur-

day and about 2,300 on Sun-

reached Rozaje at the week-

end said that Serb forces had

evicted them from their

homes, then taken them by

In Podgorica, the Mon-

tenegrin capital, an anti-Nato

Some of the refugees who

day, the UNHCR said.

bus to the border.

have moved on to Albania.

occasionally, contact with conraminated blood. The disease has a two to six-week incubation period and so it is unlikely that the present cases have

A is spread by faeces, or very

been caught after the refugees reached Albania or Macedonia. They must have been infected en route. The initial symptoms are similar to flu, but are associated with an almost total loss of appetite, nausea, vomiting and a severe headache and a feeling of absolute wretchedness. After three to 10 days, the patient usually starts to feel better but then begins to become, in many cases, jaundiced. The majority of patients with Hepatitis A, however ill they feel at the time, will make a full recovery.

The outcome in bacterial

pneumonia depends on the age and resistance of the patient - older people and young children are especially vulnerable - the bacteria involved and the availability of

appropriate antibiotics. Measles epidemics are always likely when large numbers of unvaccinated children are mixed together. The seriousness of the illness is partly dependent on the quality of the diet in the weeks before the virus was caught. In this epidemic. the inunune response of the children will have also been reduced by the disruption of their normal lifestyle, the cold and the fear. Medical care is essential for those who are badly affected with measles, without it the inevitable, but usually small, mortality and morbidity associated with the infection will become unacceptably

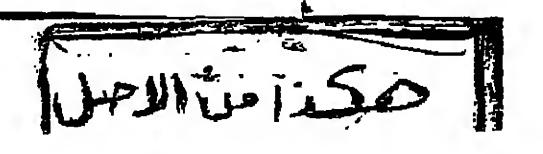
> DR THOMAS STUTTAFORD



An ethnic Albanian from Kosovo carries his father across the border to the Albanian village of Morina

rock concert was staged for | France will not accept the second day running. It drew several thousand spectators, and another concert is scheduled for today.

large numbers of Kosovans arguing that they should be sent home, Hubert Vedrise. the Foreign Minister, said.



Record of mass migrations offers scant prospect of return

REFUGEES rarely go back. In all the waves of ethnic cleansing. forced deportations and mass migrations of the past century, very few displaced groups have been

able to reclaim their homeland. From the camps of Nazi slave labourers to the Palestinian camps in the Middle East, from Vietnam to Rwanda, Bosnia to Kurdistan, those who are forced into exile often find the doors barred even when it is safe to return. The prospects for all the Kosovo refugees to go back to their villages do not look good: the facts on the ground change too quickly.

The wave of human misery that accompanies every war always flows to the nearest shelter. But often this proves inadequate, inhos-



Gaza and the Palestinians offer a grim reminder of the instability that can emerge in camps near a refugee homeland, writes Michael Binyon

pitable or insecure. There is always the fear that the enemy is still too near, or that the new host country will find the refugees a burden and push them home again. Many who flee believe that they will go home within weeks. But as months stretch into years, they begin to look further afield.

This is the nub of the argument over the Kosovans. Can they remain on the borders of their

former homeland in buge numbers without destabilising their host countries? Will they be safe? Will they lose their neighbours, family connections and chance of return if they are moved away?

The dilemma has been at the heart of the Palestinian tragedy. Driven out in 1948, most wanted to stay in temporary camps, neither they, nor the surrounding Arab countries would accept resettle-

ment elsewhere. But as dreams of a return became ever more distant. the camps became a breeding ground for frustration and terrorism. The result is Gaza - an option that appeals to no one.

Most countries accept that population transfers cannot be reversed. The forced movement of all Greeks from Turkey and Turks from Greece took place amid fighting in 1922, and apart from ancestral memories there is no chance that Greeks will regain their old homes in Smyrna - modern Izmir. The partition of India at independence ied to one of the world's bloodiest population transfers, which is also irrevocable. Even in Cyprus, current peace plans are based on the premise that refugees on each side

will receive compensation rather than their old homes back. Those who are forcibly evicted do sometimes return. Stalin deport-

ed the Crimean Tartars en masse during the Second World War. It took a generation before any were allowed back; but not all found a warm welcome returning to what was now the Ukraine. Those who flee persecution

sometimes go home when things calm down: Greek Communists who fled in their thousands on defeat in the civil war spent 30 unhappy years in the Soviet Union before the Greek Government allowed them back. Some of the thousands of Hungarians who fled in 1956 went back on the fall of Communism - but most had made a new

life in Britain, Canada and else-

It is harder to go back if the circumstances prompting the flight remain unchanged. This is especially true of economic migrants. The Vietnamese boatpeople were looking for a better life. They had no wish to return, even from detention camps in Hong Kong, and had to be forced to board flights back. Cubans who fled President Castro also claimed they were fleeing Communism: but if he died tomorrow, the Cuban population in Miami would still remain sizeable.

The only time an exodus has been reversed is when a haven has been set up to take them. Most Rwandan Tutsis went back after the genocidal Government was

British prepare to offer sanctuary

DISUSED military camps. hospitals and care homes are being earmarked for the thousands of ethnic Albanians who may be offered temporary sanctuary in Britain. Aid workers, who say airlifting them from the Balkans should be a last resort, are keen to avoid isolating them further from their communities by dispersing them too thinly around the

The Home Office said yesterday that it was still finalising a list of suitable properties where refugees could be adequately cared for. A spokesman added: "We are looking at empty military establishments, hospitals and local authority hostels and homes. The details have yet to be finalised because we are still talking to various government departments as well as local author-

Kent County Council said that it was examining the possibility of housing up to 400 refugees in a variety of accommodation, including a disused hospital in Dartford. Sandy Bruce-Lockhart, the council's leader, said that the Government should clarify how long the refugees would be staying. He said: "We are concerned that the refugees will be traumatised and will want to know how long they can stay or caster, and Middleton Towers,

Disused hospital and army bases may be homes for refugees, report

Joanna Bale and Tim Hames

when they can go home. The Government is saying that it will be a temporary measure until they can return to Kosovo, but it would be helpful to know what that means. Surely they cannot return until an independent state has been established and supported by Nato. We are hoping for some clarification."

Disused army bases such as Rollestone near Shrewton, Wiltshire, which has housed prisoners and refugees in the past, are thought to be amongs those being considered by the Home Office. Peter Chalke. leader of Wiltshire County Council, said: "Rollestone is probably a likely contender. along with a couple of others. used for army summer exercises such as Knook, near Warminster, and Westdown, near Shrewton. We have a responsibility to do something to help and we will be looking at whatever other accommodation

there is available." Other possible sites include a former RAF nuclear bomber base at Finningley, near Don-

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a former Pontins holiday camp at Heysham, Lancashire. A spokeswoman for the Refugee Council said that, in the event of mass airlifts of refugees to Britain, it hoped that families and communities were kept together to avoid isolating people. She explained: "We don't yet know if they will be coming in large numbers.

groups, which is the model we would be looking at." Jack Straw will attend a meeting of European Union interior ministers tomorrow to discuss how refugees might be airlifted out of the region, an operation fraught with logistical problems.

but it is important to keep fami-

ly groups together. When the

Government offered accommo-

dation to Bosnians in 1992

they were kept together in

☐ The Serb owner of a village shop and post office has closed the premises in protest at the Nato bombing. Villagers in Iffley, near Oxford, have been surprised by a sign pinned up by Nada Bibic, saying: "I don't serve today or any day to come until bombing on Serbia stops.

I am sorry for all my good customers here in village. But you have to understand that my country is occupied. My parents and relatives suffer and all my people in Serbia. Just know that Kosovo is just the excuse to invade our country. Nato and all other countries who join them will not succeed because the Serbs will fight un-

til the last." David Penwarden, vicechairman of Friends of Iffley. the residents' association, said: "The bombing of Serbia was the last straw for Mrs Bibic, who has struggled to keep the shop open. Her parents have had to leave their home in Belgrade and she is very upset. One or two people in the village have objected but I have told them to grin and bear it."

Mrs Bibic was unavailable

for comment yesterday, but her shop window, cluttered with newspaper clippings and home-made posters, was a silent testament to her feelings. One poster declared "Nato -Hitler". The collage was punctuated by a note from the Post Office announcing that their sub-station was closed due to unforeseen circumstances. The hand-written sign said: "Post Office Counters Ltd are not associated with this protest

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A helper collects blankets for Kosovo in the village of Bressingham, in Norfolk Meanwhile, the Home Office is studying lists of temporary accommodation

Belgrade listens again for German bombers

AS THEY prepared for another sleepless night in Belgrade yesterday, the city's more senior residents shed quiet tears as they cast their minds back 58 years and a tragedy heralded by the Luftwaffe's bombers.

Olga Petrovic, 74, remembered her old house in the southern suburb of Zvezdara. She was fulled to sleep by a beautiful Balkan spring evening, of the sort that

warmed the city last night. "I was woken by a terrible noise and ran out on to the balcony. The sky was coloured black by a cloud of iron birds. I saw people running in the street, and then I tried to find my mother and my father. He was sleeping, and she was in the market," the old lady recalled. That previous evening was the last time I

saw my mother alive." Today is the anniversary of the Luftwaffe's first attack on Beigrade, and the fact that German planes are again involved in bombing raids on Yugoslavia is not lost on the generation that lived through that first raid by Hitler.

What embitters and confuses them this time round is the role played by former allies such as Britain and France. America, too, they are disappointed in, but then pensioners like Olga remember the dumsy liberation raids American bombers in 1944 that killed almost as many Bclgraders as the Germans did on that morning in 1941.

"We ran towards a neigh-

bour's cellar, and then I heard a heavy explosion," Olga contimued. "I turned round to see that it was our house. Our neighbour's house was also badly damaged, and everything was in flames. The explosions were all around us and the bombing seemed to last an cternity. When everything had passed we went out, and I couldn't recognise my birthplace. People were trying to find one another in ruins. They were screaming and calling for help. I saw a woman dying in the street and blood everywhere around her. There was blood everywhere and I dreamed that scene for a long

time afterwards." Experiencing the bombing raids of her life no Tom Walker reports from the city whose elderly residents remember the Luftwaffe's first attack 58 years ago today

longer worried her, she said: if she had to die in her flat, she

Almost 3,000 Belgraders died alongside Olga's mother on April 6. with thousands more wounded. Some 40 per cent of the city's buildings were destroyed, among them the national library containing treasures such as the Prizren Gospel and other medieval manuscripts, many of them from monasteries in

Out at the Yugoslav Aeronautical Museum at Belgrade's Surcin airport. Cedomir Janiic was more worried by the prospect of more Nato missiles. Several build-. ings around the airfield have already been destroyed, and the museum director fears. that his priceless collection of aircraft, a powerful testimony to Yugoslavia's bonds with the wartime allies, could be blown to pieces by a misplaced Toma-

Kosovo.

Yesterday Mr Janjic was attempting to move his collection - from a rickety biplane of 1909 through Hurricanes and Spitfires to MiG jet fighters — towards the centre of the space-age spherical museum building, in an attempt to limit any blast damage from the acres of glass windows all

around. He was only six years old in 1941, but has become one of the most learned sources on the German raids. He explained how the Luftwaffe arrived at about 7.30am. Germany having declared war with the Yugoslav Government after its planes had already taken off from bases in Hungary and Romania. They were joined fater in the day by squadrons from Bulgaria: in all the Germans had 485 bombers and 160 fighters. Against them the Yugoslays

mustered just 60 fighters. many of which were destroyed on the ground. One of the early heroes of the air force, 102nd

Squadron Commander Milos Zanic, was shot down just after taking off from an airfield that now lies under the concrete apartment blocks of New Beigrade. He was the first Yugoslav pilot to die that day: another ten were to follow later, and a total of 137 were downed during the war.

"We managed to shoot down 40 German planes with our artillery," said Mr Janjic, who today will lay a wreath at a memorial for the pilots lost. "Then other German planes that were partly damaged himped home to airstrips in Sarajevo and Zagreb and elsewhere - just like the Nato planes of today."

As he passed a Spitfire and a rare variant of the Hurricane, Mr Janjic paused, andmade us listen. It was still early in the afternoon, but the sound of Nato aircraft could be heard high overhead. "Do the British understand the irony of all this?" he asked. "You are destroying your own history, too."

Mr Janjic found some fading photographs, one with German pilots gathered around a bomb with "Happy Easter" painted on it. Similar tactics are being employed today, with one missile that recently landed in central Serbia bearing the inscription: "From Albanians, to Serbia. It's payback time!"

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overthrown — though their Hutu killers remained in neighbouring Zaire. The Iraqi Kurds who fled in the wake of the failed uprising against President Saddam Hussein after the Gulf War arrived in Turkey and did not leave until the United Nations set up a "safe haven" in the Kurdish no-fly zone. But many left again, when internecine fighting broke out.

Hundreds of thousands of Bosnians left during the Bosnian War. Thousands have returned but most want to stay in the European Union, and it has taken forcible evictions by the German authorities in particular to push them home in any numbers. The same will happen, aid agencies fear, if the Kosovans are airlifted to the West.

to make choice of new life in exile

By Adrian Lee

KELIMA BAUTOVIC was in a tent at a refugee centre, sheltering from a storm; when she was forced to decide her family's future in a few seconds. "Do you want to go to England tomorrow morning?" she was asked.

Homeless and eight months pregnant, she became one of 5,000 Bosnians who were involved in the last great influx of refugees to Britain, in the auturn of 1992. "It was not a difficult choice," she said yesterday. "When you have lost everything you don't refuse an

offer of safety." An arduous coach journey followed, before she and her daughter Ena, then six. arrived in Luton, Bedfordshire, with a group of about 100 other Bosnians. They were barely able to speak a word of English and lived at first in a church hall. Ten days later, Mrs Bautovic gave birth to her second daughter, Amina, as she waited for news of her husband. Enver, who was being held in a Serbian camp. "We were happy to be in

England - the people in Luton gave as much as they could — but it was difficult. The biggest problem was the language barrier."

Following the release of her husband, the family was reunited. A son, Sead, was born two years ago, and although the Bautovics are still waiting to be granted full refugee status, husband and wife have jobs and a house. Their children attend both English and Bosnian schools.

Despite their settled life in England, where Mr Bautovic is a lorry driver, the couple would like to return to their home in northwest Bosnia.

According to the Government. many of the 5,000 Bos- fr riians who arrived in 1992 received full asylum two years ago. More than 50 British towns and cities gave homes to Bosnians - large communities exist in London, Manchester; Birmingham and Cambridge. Jack Straw, the Home Secretary, said yesterday that his own constituency, Blackburn, had given sanctuary to "quite a number" of refugees. Only a handful remain. Musa Haldarvi, an aid worker who helped arrange houses for 13 Bosnian families in

Blackburn, seven years ago. said: "Some stayed for a year, then either went home or A moved to other parts of the ... country: "They were a small group and they found it quite difficult to settle here." One Bosnian mother, who

asked not to be named, said yesterday that she found life in Blackburn lonely and hoped to move to London. "I am happy here but there are no jobs and I feel isolated. I don't have any contact with other people from Bosnia." A refugee from eastern Bosnia, she was given the choice of England or Germany.

"I had read about England and wanted to learn the language," she said. "The people here are civilised. I am free to (1 do what I like - if I want to wear a miniskirt or a long skirt it is up to me. I don't want to return to Bosnia - my home is occupied and I believe I would be killed."

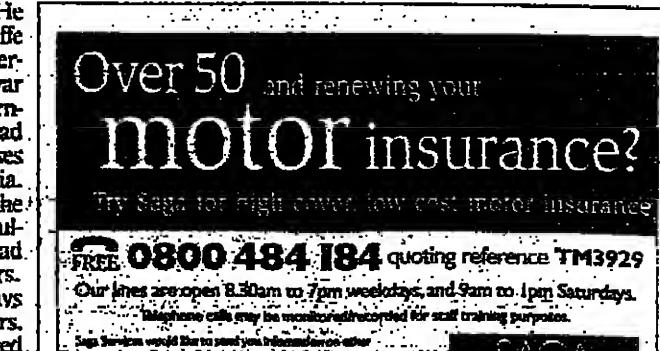


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Hidden forces frustrate RAF as low cloud lifts

CLEAR weather over Kosovo led to an intensification of Nato airstrikes yesterday, but also a sharp increase in the number of Yugoslav surfaceto-air missile and anti-aircraft attacks. No alliance aircraft were reported hit.

The improving weather pro- were all achieved". vided the first chance to search Air Commodon for Yugoslav army units in Ko-sovo. However, as the gloom lifted at Nato headquarters, many of the bomber pilots, including the increasingly frus-trated RAF Harrier GR7 crews, returned with their Paveway bombs still attached to the wings.

They and other Nato aircraft had failed to find Yugoslav units operating out in the open. Knowing that the clear skies over Kosovo would encourage Nato to come looking for them. most of the troops involved in "ethnic cleansing" had hidden in deserted buildings, woods

and camouflaged positions. Nato said the air sorties had helped to stem the ethnic cleansing, although a video was released showing Yugoslav armoured units clearing all the inhabitants from the village of Glodane "with cus-

tomary brutality". RAF Tornado GRIs were used for the first time. Ilying on an operation from RAF Bruggen in Germany to Kosovo and back, a sortie that lasted seven hours. General Sir Charles Guthrie, the Chief of the Defence Staff, said six Tornados, with three VC10 air refuelling tankers, attacked a

Michael Evans and Tom Walker report on Nato's latest raids, including one on the Yugoslav air defence HQ

number of bridges and tunnels. Initial reports, he said, indicated that "our objectives

Air Commodore David Wilby, Nato military spokes-man in Brussels, said: "The weather has only just cleared to give us a little more chance of hitting them hard and we are now getting our tactics right, making sure we have got all our forces in there. We have ramped up the number of sorties we are doing and we are taking the fight to them very hard."

was a Yugoslav air defence headquarters in Belgrade and two army barracks in the town

of Vranje to the south. Yugo-slav state television, RTS, showed images of damaged buildings close to the barracks, including houses, a cigarette factory and a bus station. It claimed that II Nato missiles had been fired on the targets in Vranje.

Following the announce-ment from Washington that it was sending 24 Apache attack helicopters to Albania — a move formally approved by Nato ambassadors yesterday — William Cohen, the US Defence Secretary, denied that it Among the biggest targets would lead to the future hit in the previous 24 hours deployment of ground troops

to Kosovo. He told CNN it merely represented an intensification

and expansion of the air campaign. "It has been an air campaign from the beginning. It's going to be a continuation of the air campaign," he said, adding that the airstrikes would last for weeks.

Robin Cook, the Foreign Secretary, told a press conference at the Ministry of Defence: "Af-ter all the atrocities of the past two weeks, no decent person can now deny that Nato is right to fight the evil of President Milosevic."

He added: "The victims herded in their thousands in the past few days on to overcrowded trains are not people fleeing from the regime, but people being forcibly evicted by that regime. What we are

an international force".

In Belgrade, it was reported that at least four civilians were killed in Nato raids on Saturday night and Sunday morning. A 52-year-old security guard was said to have died in the attack that woke all of Belgrade on Sunday morning, on the New Belgrade heating plant. Predrag Vasic, director general of Beoelektrana, told iournalists that the plant was a civilian facility that provided

strikes would continue against

the Yugoslav forces "until Kos-

ovar Albanian refugees were

allowed to return to their

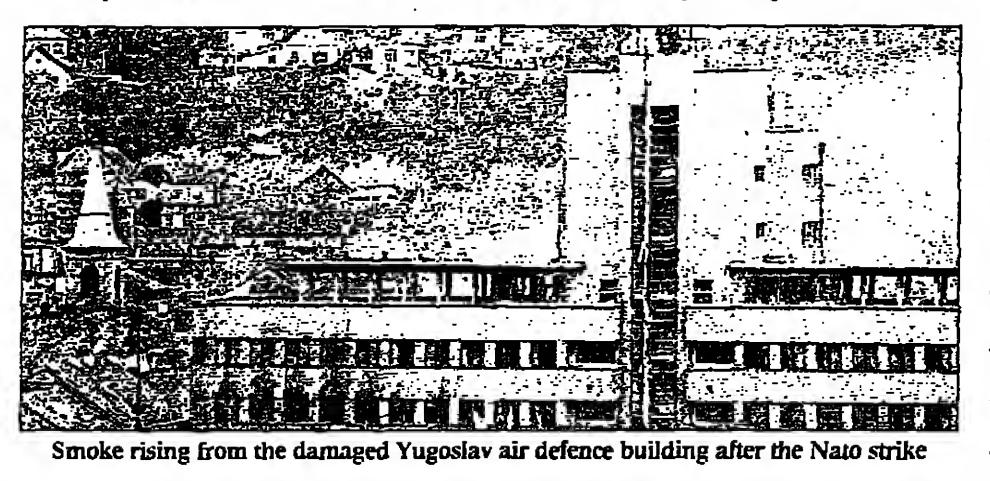
homes under the protection of

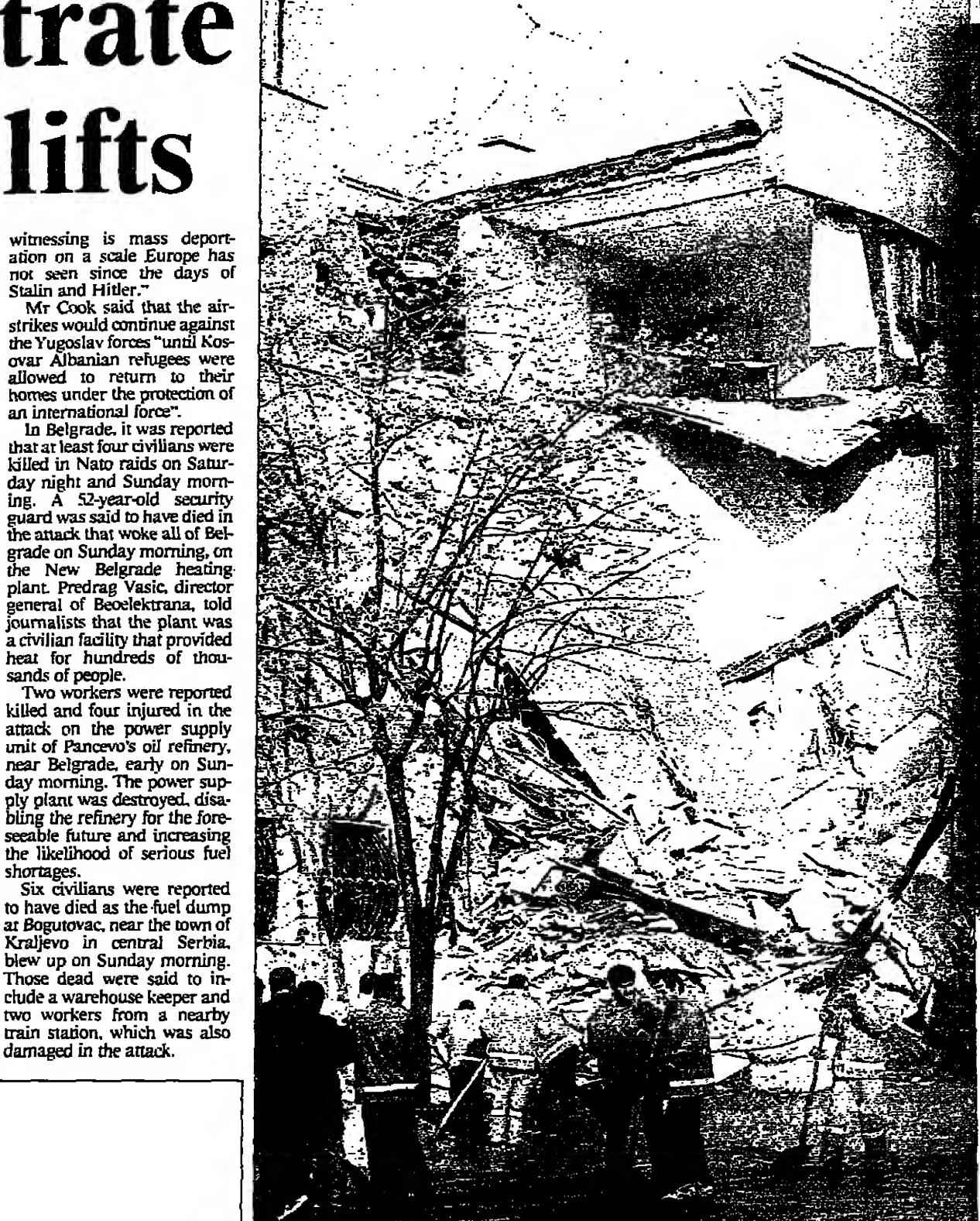
Two workers were reported killed and four injured in the attack on the power supply unit of Pancevo's oil refinery, near Belgrade, early on Sunday morning. The power sup-ply plant was destroyed, disabling the refinery for the foreseeable future and increasing the likelihood of serious fuel

heat for hundreds of thou-

sands of people.

Six civilians were reported to have died as the fuel dump at Bogutovac, near the town of Kraljevo in central Serbia. blew up on Sunday morning. Those dead were said to include a warehouse keeper and two workers from a nearby train station, which was also damaged in the attack.





Firefighters clearing up at the bombed air defence headquarters in Belgrade yesterday. Nato said that, with better weather, it was getting its tactics right

Missiles hit diesel supplies and wipe out Serb tobacco works

FROM TOM WALKER IN BELGRADE

into Kosovo itself. The most

NATO made its most comprehensive airstrikes against Yugoslavia on Sunday night and yesterday morning, hiting a variety of largets right across the country. Once again many of the facilities

damaged had civilian uses. The Yugoslav Army's daily press handout carried a map of Serbia that looked as if it had been in a paintball fight. Nato's missiles and bombs were reported as far north as Sombor, in Vojvodina, and attack sites then spread south through Belgrade, the central Serbian industial belt and on

significant strike was made against the headquarters of the Yugoslav Air Force in Zemun, on the outskirts of Belgrade. Missile damage was reported from Nis, the central city famous for its paratroop units, where many civilian buildings, including schools and university departments,

were said to have been partly destroyed. The press handout focused on the harm being done to the civilian population, and steered clear as usual of men-

some of the strike areas. In Nis, for example, the only devastation mentioned was that inflicted on the city's metal processing and tobacco industries. Serbs were horrified to find that the factory that has given them the Classic" cigarette brand is po more. Again oil and fuel dumps were struck, and there are fears that farmers will be un-able to plant their spring crops for lack of diesel. The army also highlighted damage done to the monastery at

that might have been near

AND START TO THE THIRD WORLD

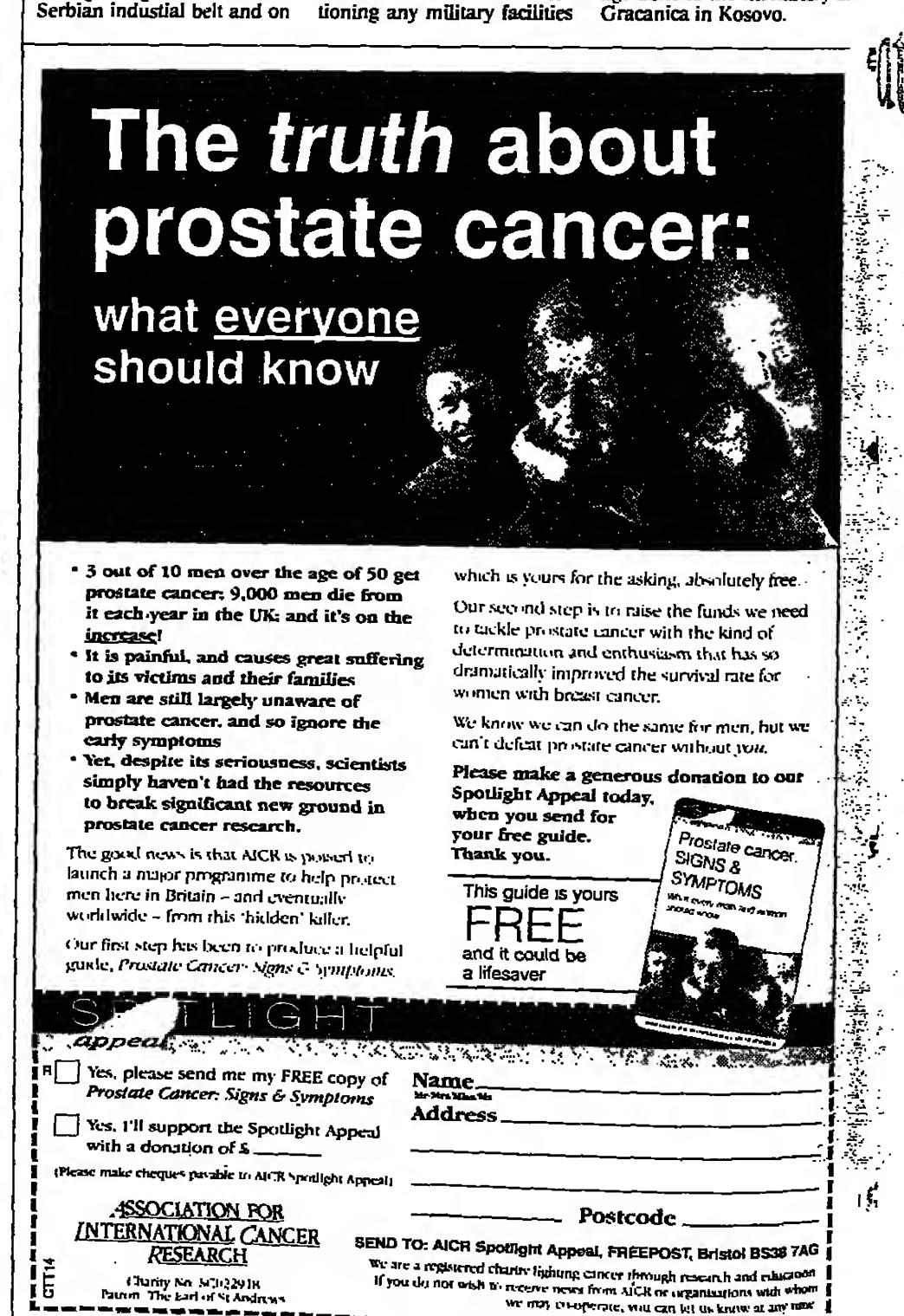
How can a country pay back debts to lenders, when they can't even afford to care for their own people? Let alone feed and house them.

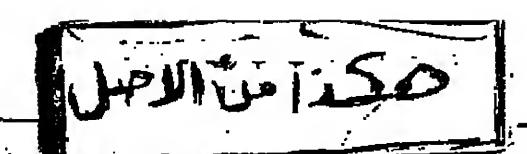
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Asiani Xhaviti, a smallholder whose family has farmed land along the Macedonia frontier for generations. "If we all run away, we just leave our land to the Serbs," he says.

Farm minefields sow death

HE front line here is a hilltop meadow scattered with wild ximroses where 57-year-old adáiif Xhaviti grazes his

Near the stone bridge his gandfather built across the River Lepelec. Serb soldiers planted landmines beneath the neat lines of his peach and apple trees.

An armoured personnel carrier is parked in Aslani's. orchard, the early-morning singlinting off a cannon pointing at his whitewalled villa. Bored with sitting around, now the town of Djeneral lanckovic has been emptied of is Albanian population. Serb ionscripts amuse themselves , by encouraging packs of stray

does to chase cattle into the minefield. A dozen beasts lay dead across the meadow. doni comiches under

Frontier smallholders see their way of life becoming a

casualty of war, writes Daniel McGrory in Blace

hedgerow and stares down at the land his family has owned for six generations but which lies across the present borders of Macedonia and Kosovo.

"Borders never mattered to any of us before," he said, slowly rolling a cigarette as a Serb soldier watched him through

"We are all farmers and share our land and water. I can't go to my animais now, so one by one they are being killed. When they have finished with the horses and cows, will they come for me?"

What is immediately noticeable in the narrow streets of Blace on the Macedonian side of the border, is that no worn

en or children are to be seen. Aslani explains they were all moved away the day Nato airstrikes began on the hills beyond. The children of Blace were Macedonia's first refugees in this war, but in the chaos spilling out from Kosovo no one has noticed.

The men stand out of sight of the Serb guns, chain-smoking and debating whether they too should leave.



http://www.asto.int The Nato website http://www.anher.ch/news/media/kos-

Aslani says they should stay. "If we all run away, we just leave our land to the

Overhead comes a distant rumble as Nato jets close over Kosovo again. Three days ago he watched a neighbouring village burn and now there is a steady stream of refugees moving down the mountain track that marks one edge of his farm.

He offered the first of them bread and tea, but within an hour there were 100, then 1.000, and now more and Aslani cannot cope.

His father was killed by

Serbs when he was two years

ald but he points to the part of

Two armoured personnel carriers are parked beside a cement factory in sight of the frightened families. Two huge red, white and blue Yugoslav

waiting to escape.

Djeneral Janckovic where his

wife comes from. He moves

his finger left to show where

his daughter got married and

where his oldest friend used to

live. "He has gone now. Every-

Two hundred yards away,

three Serb soldiers pick their

way carefully across the mead-

ow, past their minefield and

down to the main road that

runs to the border post. For

the past 48 hours that road has

been choked with cars. The

line stretches to the horizon

and beyond and those in the

queue estimate that about

2,000 vehicles are stuck be-

hind them in the mountains

one I know there has."

flags fly over the four lanes of apparently unmoving traffic. Vehicles that have run out of petrol or broken down are pushed to the side of the road.

and their occupants told to

complete their journey on foot. Previously those on either side of the border did not need passports to cross back and forth, but now the Macedonian authorities have started making it as difficult as possible for the new arrivals to pass. At night Aslani says he can hear gunfire. He points to the roof of the cement factory where a sniper can be seen. idly running his gunsight along the line of cars.

"We can never pretend the two communities were close. but I could never see a day where it would end like this. Can there be worse hatred anywhere in our world today?"



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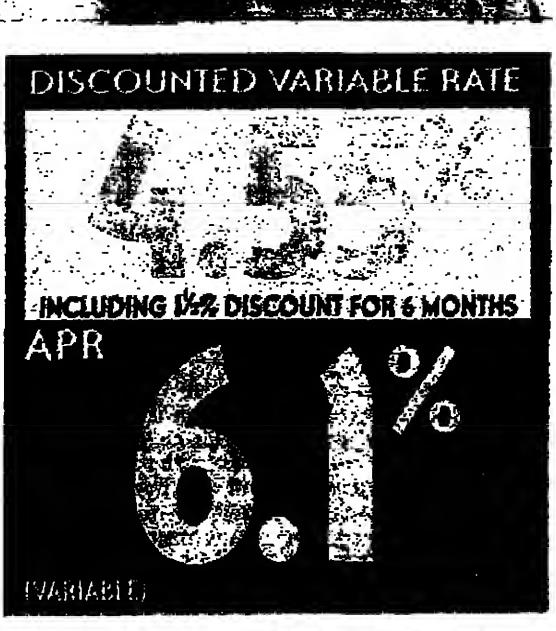


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BALKANS SUMMARY

Russia sends aid to Yugoslavia

Moscow: Russia has launched its promised operation to supply Yugoslavia with humanitarian aid. Yevgeni Primakov, the Prime Minister, announced following a telephone conversation with Gerhard Schröder, the German Chancellor, whose country

holds the six-month presidency of the European Union. Shipments of medical supplies, clothes and foodstuffs are being sent
by lorry, but it is not certain who the recipients will be.

Mr Primakov said that the political process had to be instantly
revived to try to bring Belgrade and the Kosovo Albanians closer
to a settlement: "The most important thing now is to end Nato's
military campaign. I want to repeat that the barbaric attacks by
Nato are a tragic mistake." Gennadi Seleznyov, the State Duma
speaker, and Nikolai Ryzhkov, a leftist former Soviet Prime Minister, are due to visit Belgrade today. (AFP)

Challenge from Arkan

Bucharest: The Serbian warlord known as Arkan has vowed that his paramilitary Tigers will fight any Nato ground forces "to the last man". Speaking in an interview with a Romanian daily, Jurnalul National, he said: "It is when we fight on the ground that we will see who is the strongest. We are waiting for them." But he insisted that his Tigers — notorious for "ethnic cleansing" in Croatia and Bosnia — had not been sent into Kosovo. (AFP)

Moderate's peace call

Pristina, Kosovo: Ibrahim Rugova, the Kosovo Albanian moderate leader, met Yuri Kotov, the Russian Ambassador to Belgrade, and repeated calls for Nato to halt bombings and for Belgrade to be more co-operative with the international community". He added: "The bombing should be stopped and a monitor-ing should be put in." He said that he was awaiting clearance to go to Macedonia to work for peace. (AFP)

Nato TV reaches Serbs

Belgrade: Blurred UHF television transmissions giving Nato's viewpoint on Kosovo were picked up by residents. Showing maps and a Nato insignia, a Serbian commentary said: "If only you knew what 'ethnic cleansing' was going on down there, you would be stunned. Milosevic is trying to show he is more powerful than he is. Is this the behaviour of a professional army?" Nato has confirmed that it is broadcasting into Yugoslavia. (Reuters)

Paris terrorism alert

Paris: French police have stepped up security in Paris and other big cities to counter the threat of Serb terrorism (Adam Sage writes). Intelligence service agents believe President Milosevic may order a military unit to mount terrorist bombing campaigns in an attempt to destabilise public opinion. They also fear isolated acts by Serb extremists in France. French police thwarted one such plot during the war in Bosnia.

Horseman of apocalypse

Moscow: Andrei Andronnikov, an actor and director, dressed as an ancient Russian warrior on horseback to ride past the US Ambassador's residence and fire an arrow carrying a message that the Kosovo conflict would end on American territory, police said. The message added: "Those who act against Slavs by the sword

Searching high and low for the enemy

NATO is about to move more aggressively into the low-level bombing phase of its campaign, marshalling Apache attack helicopters and aircraft armed with cluster bombs to hit the Yugoslav forces in Kosovo — if they can find them. The Pentagon has promised

that the deployment of the Apaches, which have a 430-mile range and can loiter in the target area before firing their missiles, will provide Nato with a capability to get up close and personal to the Milosevic armour".

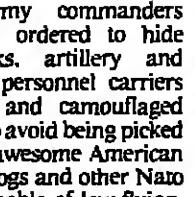
RAF Harriers and other allied aircraft set out on Sunday to hunt for Yugoslav troops and armour carrying out "ethnic cleansing" operations in Kosovo, but returned to their bases without dropping a single bomb. General Sir Charles Guthrie, the Chief of the Defence Staff, admitted: They did not engage any targets. Indeed, none was found." The problem is that the Yu-

goslav army commanders have been ordered to hide their tanks, artillery and armoured personnel carriers in woods and camouflaged positions to avoid being picked off by the awesome American A10 Warthogs and other Nato aircraft capable of low-flying, anti-tank missions.

As General Guthrie pointed out, however, the mere presence of these aircraft over Kosovo was acting as a deterrent, although some ethnic deansing was still going on yester-

ters and suppresses Serb action and helps to achieve our aim of curbing the barbaric repression we have been hearing about," he said.

If the tactical bombing campaign is to enter a different level of intensity. Nato's anti-tank killing machine will have to score some major successes for the momentum of President Milosevic's ethnic cleans-



ing operation to be blunted

"This type of operation de-

this has not been a conflict about casualties.

cleansing. Nato's air power could soon be harder to avoid, writes Michael Evans, Defence Editor apart from the physical battand finally reversed. Yugoering meted out to the three slavia's killing fields in Kos-

The tanks in Kosovo are taking cover as Nato tries

to target the armoured forces which carry out ethnic

Nato's killing fields. For the first time in nearly two weeks of Operation Allied Force, the issue of military casualties is likely to move to the forefront if Nato aircraft begin to locate and destroy Yugoslav armoured units on a significant scale. Although Belgrade admitted yesterday that there had been a number of dead and wounded following Nato attacks on two army barracks in the town of Vranie, so far

ovo now have to become

Nato has suffered none.

captured American soldiers; and although Belgrade has claimed a number of civilian dead and wounded, there have been no reports of heavy casualties among the Yugoslav

military. While this may have more to do with Mr Milosevic's attempt to keep the Yugoslav population behind him by giving the impression that his nation's forces are immune from Nato's strikepower, an all-out attack by alliance aircraft on troops in Kosovo is likely to change the image of the war far more dramatically than the clinical destruction of

bridges, fuel depots and heating plants.

The problem for General Wesley Clark, Nato's Supreme Allied Commander, is that it will take time for the new firepower to become operational. The 24 US AH64 Apaches, each armed with eight Hellfire anti-tank rockets, will be a deadly addition to the strike force already in theatre. But it could take more than a week for them to be packed up at their base at Illesheim in Germany, flown aboard cargo planes to Tirana, the capital of Albania, and reassembled for operations.

Nevertheless, while the AlOs, RAF Harriers. armed

weathers and all battlefield with cluster bombs, and BIB bombers, also with cluster muconditions. Apaches can also film a tar-

nitions, take the battle to the ethnic cleansing battlefield in get area with a TV sensor. while concealed behind cover, Kosovo over the next seven and this played a significant days, the announcement about the deployment of the formidrole in the Gulf War in 1991 able Apaches could add to the and is currently helping to psychological stress which at keep the peace in Bosnialeast some of the Yugoslav Herzegovina, based at Tuzla troops must now be feeling as in the north.

they hide in the woods to avoid The structure of the Apache is designed to withstand hits Nato's tank-busting aircraft. The latest Apaches can defrom high-explosive rounds of tect 128 potential targets in 30 up to 23mm calibre. Of greatseconds, select 16 and begin est concern, however, will be launching Hellfire missiles the Yugoslav forces' portable, shoulder-launched, surface-towhich are capable of destroying any known armoured vehiair missiles. cle from five miles. In the Gulf The Apache can avoid the long-range systems by flying War, they operated in combiat low altitude, its radar signanation with other aircraft, ture hidden in the ground such as the AlO, firing Maver-

"clutter". But a single Yugoick missiles from about seven miles and the awesome slav soldier with a man-pack Gatling "chain gun" from just Sam missile will be more diffiover a mile. cult to avoid. The two pilots of an Apache

The 24 Apaches, and 2,600 use electronic systems to American support troops, are

The other ingredient will be 18 US Multiple Launch Rocket Systems (MLRS) which will have the ability to strike at targets all over Kosovo. Armed with the Army Tactical Mis-

sile System (ATACMS), it has a range of more than 100 The combination of Apache

and MLRS across the border in Albania will add a new fire, power dimension to Nato campaign, but it also expands the territory of the war, drawing in Albania and making it vulnerable to any Yugoslav attacks.

day called a "deep strike" pack-

age to be based in Albania.

Several villages in the north of Albania were hit by Yugoslav shells earlier in the campaign. Now, the proposed positioning of such potent American weapons on its soil will make it imperative for the alliance to defend Albania for the length of the Nato campaign. and beyond.

Hopes pinned to plane no one wanted

JUST as they did in the Gulf War, military commanders have gratefully turned to the All Warthog as the only close ground support plane that can attack tanks, artil-

lery and troops in Kosovo. ironically, the funny-looking Al0 — ungainly, stubby and bulky - is the aircraft the US Air Force tried to kill. The production line was halted L3 years ago and by now all the AlOs were supposed to be in retirement or farmed out to part-time National Guard units. As it is, they were prepar-

ing to go into action today. Military sources said that in their initial foray the AlOs would be hitting Serb tanks. yet again proving their worth at close range over much faster. high-flying fighter jets.

In the Gulf War, 174 AlOs knocked out 1,200 of the 1,700 Iraqi tanks destroyed from the air and smashed 1.000 of the 1,200 artillery pieces. They also shot down two helicopters, went after Scud missile launchers, blew up bridges and roads and carried out search-and-rescue operations.

They could take a lot of punishment. There were nearly 400 shrapnel holes from an iraqi ground-to-air missile in an Alo flown by Colonel David Sawyer of the

Nato's fabled tank-buster was almost left on the drawing board, Ian Brodie writes in Washington

USAF. Both his engines and the tail were shredded, but he made it home.

Others limped back to base with part of a wing shot off. a hydraulic line dangling and the fuselage in holes. "Any other plane would have taken a dive with that kind of damage," said a Pentagon official. Five AlOs were shot down, all at every low altitudes, the same number of Fl6s that were lost while flying much higher.

The AlO is not fast, sleek or sexy, but the punch it packs is formidable. Its sevenbarrel, 30mm Gatling gun

can fire 70 armour-piercing bullets per second.

Some Iraqi tanks looked unscathed apart from a small puncture. A look inside, however, showed the destruction wrought by the fiery explosion from one A10 round. The AlO can also accurately deliver up to 16,000lb of laser-guided missiles and other bombs from racks slung under its wings and fu-

Flying at 300mph and at times below 1,000ft, the A10 is the most precise weapon in Nato's air arsenal. The lone pilot has a titani-

um metal "bathtub" beneath the cockpit to protect him from ground fire. There are duplicate flight controls in case one system is knocked out by enemy fire. The A10 is quiet sounding more like a vacuum cleaner than a plane, with the result that troops do not hear it until it is

almost on top of them. The bubble canopy on the cockpit gives the pilot allround vision. The AlO is also highly manoeuvrable, with an ability to turn sharply on one wing almost perpendicu-larly. Its official designation is Thunderbolt II, but every-



The AlO Warthog was used as the scourge of Iraqi tanks during the Gulf War

one uses its nickname Warthog, out of mockery and affection.

The Alo's difficult birth in the 1970s was a classic of Pentagon infighting. Air force officers saw their way to promotion through advanced combat jets. No one wanted to be known for their work on close air support. Eventually the army decided to build its own support plane, finally forcing the air force to act. The AlO's small but devot-

ed band of supporters took dramatic steps to prove their baby's value as a tank-buster. With Israeli help, they brought together Soviet tanks captured in the Middle East wars, amassing 500 in California. Then they filmed Alos shooting them up. In 550 passes, they knocked out 350 tanks, four times the

number predicted. Even so, the AlO was kept alive only by the demands of Joseph Addabbo, a powerful congressman from Long Island where the AlO was built. When he died in 1986, the air force stopped the programme in its tracks.

Today, however, the AlO is the only fighter with a guaranteed long-term future in the US Air Force. All the others have a phase-out date for when newer fighters are

Clouds roll away and Harriers go hunting

to be part of what was vester-

FROM JOHN PHILLIPS IN GIOIA DEL COLLE

RAF HARRIER pilots have taken off in pursuit of Yugoslav mobile targets to bomb after the skies cleared to allow them to fly daylight operations without hindrance from bad weather.

search for their targets in all

Some flyers from No.1 Fighter Squadron waved from their cockpits at reporters watching on the edge of the runway at the Gioia del Colle base in southern Italy as six Harrier GR7s laden with bombs and missiles left in the bright sunshine that RAF planners had been awaiting for a week.

It was the first time that a daylight mission by the Harriers was not aborted because of weather conditions since the squadron began operations against Serb targets, an RAF spokesman Group Captain Ian Travers Smith said.

Once they were well into their somies, pilots encountered a new kind of frustration when they learnt there were no suitable mobile targets to attack and they returned to base without dropping their bombs and without crossing

into Yugoslav territory. It was not disclosed what kind of mobile targets the Harriers were seeking but there was speculation it had been hoped to use them to bomb

some of the Serb troops or armour that had been surrounding villages in Kosovo and then driving out or killing civilian inhabitants. "Their prime target today

would have been mobile targets." the spokesman said. During the period they were airborne no such opportunities presented themselves, so the Harriers returned with their bombs." But the mission marked a

"new phase" for the Harrier pilots, since clear- weather daylight operations mean the pilots can see the ground but the enemy can also see them," the spokesman said.

The tension at the base was almost tangible after the Harrier pilots began taking off at 12.20pm, the high-pitched whine of their engines turning into a roar.

Afterwards ground crew wearing bush hats and head phones rode around the fields on bicycle or nervously revved up their tow Jeeps until the aircraft began reappearing 90 minutes later and the pilots, again waving reassuringly or giving the thumbs-up sign as they touched down, were all safely landed and accounted

The Harriers arrived back

in pairs; one carried bombs and the other, whose task was to designate targets by laser. did not

The pilots were then whisked off by hus to the squadron operations room to give brief mission reports that would be sent up the chain of

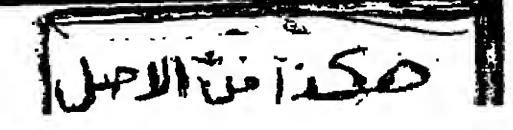
command to strike command Then they were scheduled to spend up to three or four hours debriefing and analysis ing their flying with their oper-

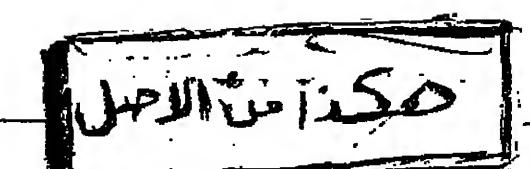
ational commander. Although no mobile largets were hit that time, their sorties were valuable experience, including another test of the strain of preparing to cross the

border into enemy territory. The best moment is when you come back to this side of the border." Group Captain Travers Smith said. "It doesn" matter how long it takes to go out but it always happens 100 quickly — each hour seems like a minute."

The determination of the prolots in the squadron to strike alt. the Serbs was evident from the doors of two portable lattines that had been erected near the Harrier hangars. One had been decorated with a label marked Slobodan while the other was designated for militia leader Arkan.

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Armed chiefs fear new Vietnam

FROM DAMIAN - WHITWORTH

US military chiefs warned President Clinton before the air campaign began that by itself it probably would not work and that they had serious reservations about becoming involved in Kosovo at all. According to The Washington Post, General Hugh Shelton, Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, led other senior commanders in questioning the basis for action in Kosovo. They are said to remain maconvinced that the air offensive will achieve its goal. But they are also extremely doubtful that

General Shelton and the heads of the services are acutely anxious that the US should not become embroiled in another Vietnam. Before airstrikes began, they challenged the "domino theory" outlined by Madeleine Albright, the Secretary of State, which maintained that losing Kosovo would destabilise the whole region. A similar argument was used over Vietnam.

ground troops should be

introduced.

Now they are unhappy about the escalation of the conflict, which they blame on bad weather and the need for Nato consensus on bow to wage war. Such incremental increases in involvement were also characteristic of the Vietnam conflict.

> The commanders had preferred that tougher non-military measures be given a chance to bite, including stringent economic sanctions.

Hawkish Albright driven by family history

FROM BEN MACINTYRE IN WASHINGTON

THE US Secretary of State, Madeleine Albright, knows about "ethnic cleansing": as a child she fled first Nazism and then Stalinism, as an adult she learned that her Jewish grand-parents had perished in the Holocaust, and she is now pursuing a war in Kosovo as if on

a personal crusade. Ms Albright has long been seen as the most sharp-beaked of hawks within the US Administration, and it was largely her persistence that convinced President Clinton of the need for a bombing campaign, overriding the warnings of intelligence sources and the misgivings of senior military officials.

In Mr Clinton's own words: "She pushed and she pushed." But as the US and Nato enter the third week of bombardment with more military hardware pouring into the region, there are some who fear Ms Albright's own experiences and her feelings about her past, rather than considerations of diplomacy, may have pushed the alliance into a Bal-

kans nightmare. "Her personal history has taken over in Kosovo," one former associate told the US columnist Arianna Huffington. President Milosevic former communist hardman. nationalist bigot and ethnic

cleanser - is an ogre tailormade for Ms Albright, 62, whose own childhood and family fell victim to Europe's racial and ethnic animosities. Ms Albright is one of the few diplomats addressing the humanitarian crisis at Kos-

ovo's borders who knows what the life of a refugee is like. "We came to America after being driven twice from our home in Czechoslovakia, first by Hitler and then by Stalin," she said at her nomination ceremony.

The US Administration has consistently couched the Kosovo conflict in terms of genocide, comparing the actions of Mr Milosevic to those of Hitler. That language may be traced directly to the childhood experiences of the woman born Maria Jana Korbel. Born in Prague in 1937, the

daughter of Josef Korbel, a prominent Czech diplomat, she fled Czechoslovakia with her family when Hitler invaded in 1938, and spent the rest of the war in Kensington and then Walton-on-Thames. One of her earliest memories is of sitting under a steel table as bombs fell on London, and she makes no secret of the fact that, while most Americans look to Vietnam for an understanding of war, her focus is on an earlier conflict ignited



by European dictatorship, aggression and ethnic hatred. "My mindset is Munich," she is fond of saying, for the memory of Neville Chamber-

lain's appeasement and its con-sequences for Czechoslovakia remain the defining component in her diplomatic philosophy. After the war, her father was appointed ambassa-dor to Marshal Tito's Yugoslavia, where Madeleine was tutored by a governess to prevent her having contact with the loathed Communists. In 1948, the family was

again forced to flee Prague, this time when the Communists took over and stripped her father of his citizenship, to settle permanently in the US. Ms Albright's - turnultuous

early life and hawkish inclinations place her in direct opposition to the so-called Powell doctrine, advocated by General Colin Powell, the former Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of

Staff, which holds that mili-

bo-Croat — one of her five languages — recalling how her family had been welcomed in Belgrade in her youth and insisting that Nato had no quarrel with the Serb people. She may have other memo-

attempted to skirt around a direct question on war crimes. "Don't give me that." Ms Albright shot back. "I'm from this region. I'm not naive." A vigorous advocate of airstrikes against Bosnian Serbs,

origins, and the deaths of three grandparents and other family members in Nazi concentration camps, soon after. her appointment as Secretary of State

It was, she said with remarkable understatement, a "major

surprise". Michael Dobbs, the Washington Post journalist who revealed her Jewish roots, has already dubbed the US Secretary of State the "spiritual patron" of the Kosovo crisis. When historians assess why the bombs began failing in Yugoslavia they will recall not only the troubled and complex history of the region, but also

that of Madeleine Albright.

Diary, page 18

We came to America after being driven twice from our home, first by Hitler and then Stalin?

tary action needs an overriding threat to US interests, a clear goal and a knockout punch. Not surprisingly, Ms Albright has always regarded the Balkans as her special preserve. Last week she broadcast an appeal to the Serbs in Ser-

ries, too. Once she was accosted by a Serb woman who screamed: "Why are you so awful to the Serbs?" She replied, in the same language: "Because they are awful!"

Mr Milosevic himself was once left in no doubt when he

Ms Albright's determination to stand up to ethnic aggression must have been redoubled by the discovery, two years ago, that she was herself Jewish. Raised as a Roman Catholic, now an Episcopalian, Ms Albright learnt of her

SURVIVAL

CAN DEPEND

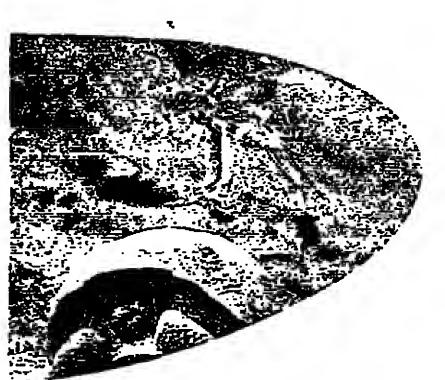
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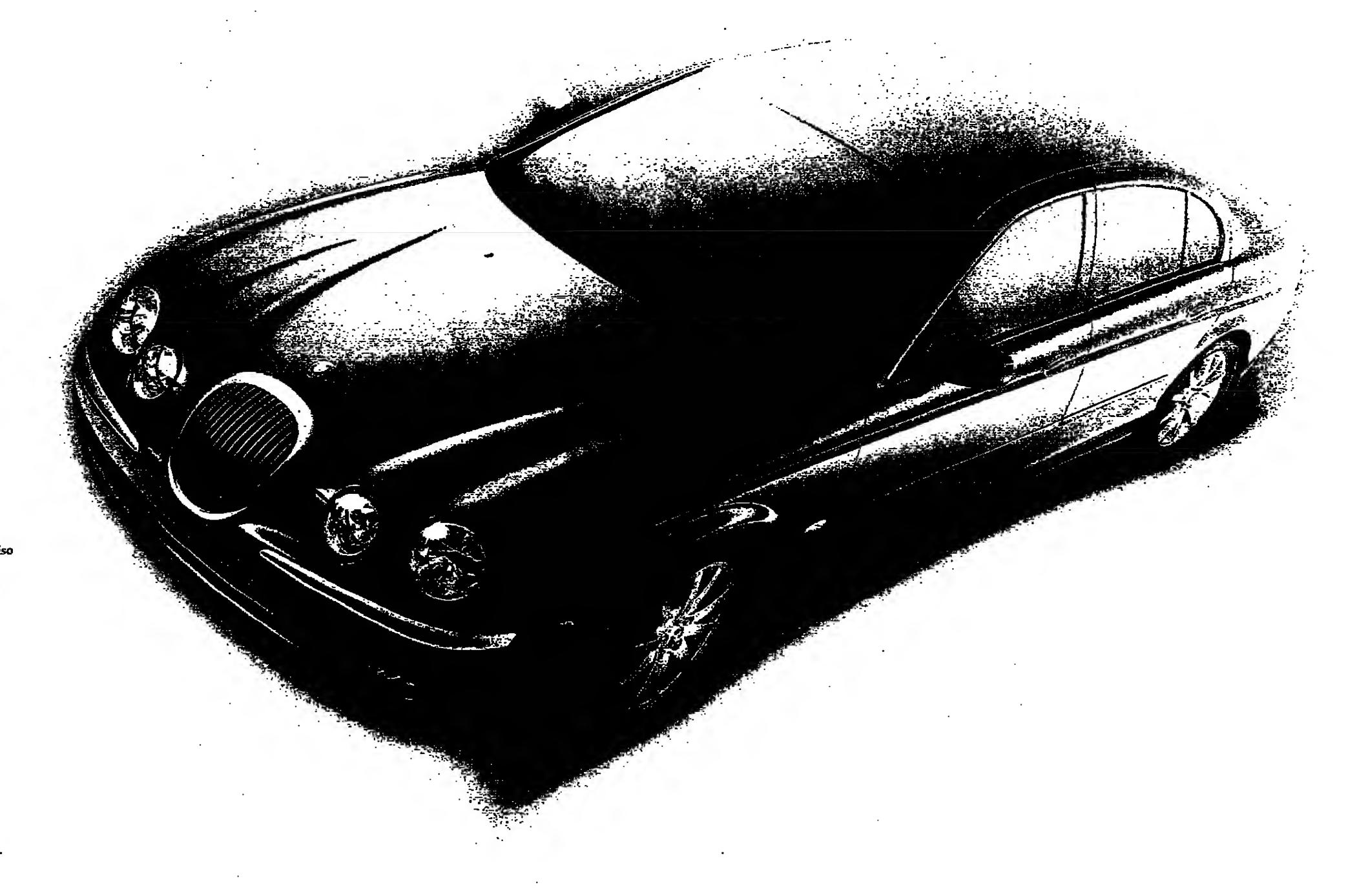
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Lockerbie suspects in Scottish custody

FROM STEPHEN FARRELL AT CAMP ZEIST

www.law.gle.ac.uk/lockerble/ briefing on the Lockerble crash by the University of

www.odcl.gov/cta/publications/factbook/ly.htmt CIA profile of Libys

THE two Libyans suspected of carrying out the Lockerbie bombing were last night in The Netherlands awaiting trial under Scottish law at a spe-cially-converted former US

Air Force base. Abdel Basset Ali al-Megrahi. 46, and Lamine Khalifa Fhimeh, 42, agreed to be extra-dited to Scotland after being delivered to Dutch authorities at The Hague by Hans Corell. the United Nations chief legal counsel, after a 31 shour flight from Tripoli.

The pair, who were indicted in 1991 over the December 1988 bombing in which 270 people died, were last night due to be handed over to Scottish police and taken to Camp Zeist, the 100-acre site near Utrecht where they are to be charged, committed and tried before three Sconish judges.

Mr Corell, 59, was first out

of the aircraft to hand over the men's passports, as agreed in advance with the Dutch authorines. Both suspects were accompanied by a brother and their lawyer, but Mr Corell re-

fused to identify three other passengers aboard the Italian

Speaking in Rotterdam afterwards Mr Corell, a Swede, said: "Acting under the authority of Secretary-General Kofi Annan, I performed the task entrusted to him by the Securiry Council ... to assist the Libyan government with physical arrangements for the safe transfer of the two accused in the Lockerbie case from Libya

direct to the Netherlands." He said that a report would now go to the UN Security Council on what he described as an 'extraordinary and un-

precedented" mission. had not declared any intention to oppose extradition and added: "On no occasion have I

heard from the Libyan delegation any doubts expressed about the independence or impartiality of the Scottish court to be sitting in the Netherlands. On the contrary, it has been referred to with respect."

Scottish police armed with sub-machine guns yesterday patrolled inside the 7ft wire perimeter fence separating the 100-acre site, which has been declared Scottish territory for the duration of the trial, from scores of uninterested Dutch tourists wandering among the warplanes on display at the Military Aviation Museum next door.

Reinforcements with guard Mr Corell said the Libyans dogs arrived at the screenedoff former barracks containing the temporary cells where the Libyans will be held while

prison are finished. At the gates of the camp, Norman McFadyen, Procurator Fiscal for Lothian and Borders, con-firmed that the delivery of the suspects would allow the prosecution team headed by Lord Hardie, the Lord Advocate, to "properly discharge" its responsibility "both to the people of Scotland and to the families of those who were killed". He said that the trial would be "fair and proper" and that

the permanent courtroom and

event of a decade ago to a dignified conclusion." Pamela Dix, who lost her brother Peter, 35, was at The Hague yesterday to greet the men's arrival with a "tremendous sense of relief".

said "Today's handover sig-

nals we are an important step

closer to bringing the tragic

She said: "It is a very emotional moment for me. We have waited for this time since November 1991. I think one of the most important things, the most important thing for me, is to find out the truth of exactly what happened."



Libyan TV picture of Abdel Basset Ali al-Megrahi, 46, and Lamine Khalifa Fhimeh leaving Tripoli for The Netherlands

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Legal machine gears up for £100m battle

By GILLIAN HARRIS. SCOTLAND CORRESPONDENT

ONCE the Lockberbie bomb suspects have been extradited their trial will be dealt with like any other court case under Scottish law.

The Libyans will make their first appearance before Sheriff Graham Cox. the sheriff principal of South Strathclyde. Dumfries and Galloway, within 48 hours of their formal arrest by Scottish police officers

stationed at Camp Zeist. Before they appear in court. Abdel Baset Ali Mohammed al-Megrahi and Lamine Khalifa Fhimeh will have access to legal advice. Their defence team will be led by Kamal Maghur, a Libyan lawyer who has had a varied career as a iudge, a government minister and an ambassador.

Mr Maghur will work alongside the suspects' Scottish defence lawyer. Alistair Duff, 44, who will appoint Scottish counsel to his team. His one appointment so far is Bill Taylor, QC, the only lawyer in Britain to be a Queen's Counsel in both Scotland and England. but by the time the full trial gets under way he is expected to have a legal team of six.

The short committal hearing will be held in private with only two United Nations' observers and a shorthand writer to witness the start of legal proceedings. Although a criminal case as serious as the Lockerbie bombing will ultimately be heard by the High Court, the first hearing must take place in front of a sheriff. The purpose of the hearing is to allow the prosecutors. Nor-

man McFadyen, the regional procurator fiscal for Edinburgh, and Jim Brisbane, the depute principal Crown agent, to question the accused about the circumstances surrounding the allegations contained in the petition warrant.

Unlike committal hearings in England, where it is a function of the court to judge whether there is a case to be answered, in Soutland the case proceeds automatically to the High Court. The procurator fiscal, Mr McFadyen, will ask questions on behalf of the Crown. but the defendants need not answer. It is common for defendants to make no plea. The men will also be formally charged with the crimes outlined in the petition for the arrest warrant, which was issued on November 13, 1991.

The charges are murder. conspiracy to murder and contravention of the Aviation Security Act 1982. It is alleged that the two men, working for the Libyan Intelligence Services. placed a bomb on board Pan Am flight 103 for terrorist purposes in order to destroy the aircraft and in doing so killed all 259 passengers and crew as well as II people on the ground in Lockerbie.

At the end of the committal hearing the two accused will be committed for trial. They will be held in custody as defendants cannot be bailed on a murder charge in Scotland.
The case, which will cost

British taxpayers an estimated £100 million, is expected to begin early next year.

10866

bride

Tartan passion of UN lawyer

FROM JAMES BONE IN NEW YORK

THE United Nations legal adviser who escorted the Lockerbie suspects to Holland has a penchant for wearing a kill playing the bagpipes and reciting Burns poems - even

though he is Swedish. Hans Corell, the UN's top lawyer, has been obsessed with Scotland since studying there as a 16-year-old exchange student.

Colleagues say the distinguished international lawyer formed a life-long friendship with a Scottish Presbyterian minister who encouraged him to take bagpipe lessons and study

Burns's poetry. In many ways the babyfaced bureaucrat is the antithesis of the dashing UN troubleshooter Giandomenico Picco, who freed the British and American hostages held in Lebanon. If Signor Picco was the UN's James Bond. Mr Corell is its George Smiley.

After receiving a law degree at the University of Uppsala, he started as a court clerk, becoming a judge in petty criminal cases before joining his country's justice ministry, where he became an expert in international law.



Corell: plays the pipes and recites Burns

The apparently placid Swede has an eccentric side, however. On several occasions he has shocked UN staff by attending office parties dressed in full tartan regalia and puffing on his own set of pipes.

At the annual dinner of UN correspondents two years ago, he entertained giggling reporters with a thickly accented rendition of Burns's "To A Mouse".

Mr Corell's Scottish connection has been kept quiet during negotiations with Libyan officials over the surrender of the two Lockerbie suspects. A smiling UN official said: "I am glad it did not come out until after the deal. Libya would have said

he was a Scottish agent"

Stag cull puts shine back on Golden Mile

A DRUNKEN young man throws a flurry of punches outside a nightclub in Blackpool. He is arrested immediately, bringing his part in the night-ly pantomime of kiss-me-quick fun, frantic clubbing and laddish boozing to an abrupt end.

Still spitting indignation for the benefit of excited teenage ghis, shivering in strapless party dresses in the cold Easter weekend night, the young man is ushered none too gently into a police car. He is destined to spend a night in the cells and become one more statistic in Operation Arrival Launched by Lancashire Po-lice ten days ago, its aim is to clean up the town's notorious Golden Mile, a sprawl of garishly lit pubs and clubs.

The quarter of a mile of coastline on either side of Blackpool Tower is the No!

We are

saying to

visitors

that this

is a nice,

destination for stag and hen parties. The revellers come to the town, a working-class fantasy land, to let their hair down. But in recent years their behaviour has descended into wild loutishness: groups of men drink in the streets, square up for fights, urinate in doorways and devise increasingly

imaginative ways to celebrate the stag tradition. The victim, usually drunk and incapable, is often stripped and tied to a lamppost or car bumper with rolls of Cellophane. Around 2am, when up to 30,000 young people pour out of the clubs, streaking has

become a a ritual. Police officers working on Operation Artival swamp known troublespots at peak times — dozens of them, all highly visible in bright yellow jackets. Their brief is not to wait until trouble happens. but to steam in before it kicks

Even before the holiday weekend was over, the operation was being hailed as a success, with Lancashire Police deBlackpool police are taking a tough line with louts giving the resort a bad name. Russell Jenkins watches them in action

intimidatory, but friendly and

fair. It seems to be working."

livering crime figures of which most chief constables can only dream: crime was down over-all last month by 31 per cent. Detective Sergeant Pat Gill, recruited from the divisional intelligence unit, said the operation was being run like a major incident. An operations centre has been set up in the gym at headquarters. From here, up to 100 officers are despatched to the front line.

On Good Friday night, pubs such as Cahoots and Brannigans - motto "drinking, dancing, cavorting" - were spew-

ing out noisy, drink-filled men in shirtsleeves, and even noisier girls, clutching bare to keep arms warm. As they moved from bar to club, heading for Heaven and Hell, Rumours, the Palace or Jellies, they passed under the watchful eye of uniformed police stationed at every 50 yards. The hope-

lessly drunk were

picked up; those carrying beer bottles were told to "get rid". PC Simon Copley, 6ft 8in, stopped a man urinating in the doorway of Pricebusters. A man in a check shirt was thrown out of Cahoots, a new venue on the mile, for pouring beer on dancers from the balcony. "It's his stag party, but his friends are staying inside." PC Robin Hardiman said. "Some

friends." Minutes later, the two constables were on the scene when the young man started throwing punches outside Coral Island. Within seconds PC Copley was throwing his rugby player's bulk into the fray, slamming the offender against the shuttered doors of Mr B's



The Golden Mile is a prime venue for hen parties

Public invited to see royal bride arrive

BY RUTH GLEDHILL, RELIGION CORRESPONDENT

PRINCE Edward and Sophie Rhys-Jones are to invite 2,000 members of the public inside the precincts of Windsor Castle for their wedding in June.

Applications are to be invited for tickets to view the couple entering and leaving St George's Chapel, spiritual home to the Order of the Garter, which stands inside the castle walls.

More than 500 guests have been invited to the service, including Tony and Cherie Blair, Lord Lloyd-Webber, Chris Tarrant and Billy Connolly. The wedding will be conducted by the Right Rev Peter Nott, Bishop of Norwich, who has become a close friend during the couple's visits to Sandringham, which lies within his diocese.

11. 12. 12. 12.

The 2,000 members of the public will be allowed to stand in the lower ward area of the castle precincts. the area that is normally open to the public. Buckingham Palace will give details of how to obtain tickets in the next few weeks.

The concept of public access to the ceremony has been borrowed from the annual Garter Day Service at St George's, which is attended by the Queen and Duke of Edinburgh. This year it will be held on June 14, five days before the wed-

The Garter, the oldest ex-

isting monarchical order of

chivalry, was founded by Edward III in 1348 after the capture of Calais, with King Arthur and the Knights of the Round Ta-ble in mind. On Garter Day, 2,000 members of the public are invited into the castle precincts to watch the arrival and departure of members of the Royal Family as well as the 24 Knight

Companions with the Roy-Knights. Foreign Knights and Ladies of the

The couple, both 34, had hoped to keep the wedding as private as possible. Prince Edward's television company, Ardent Productions, is expected to film the ceremony for broadcast, with the profits going to a new charitable trust under the control of the couple.

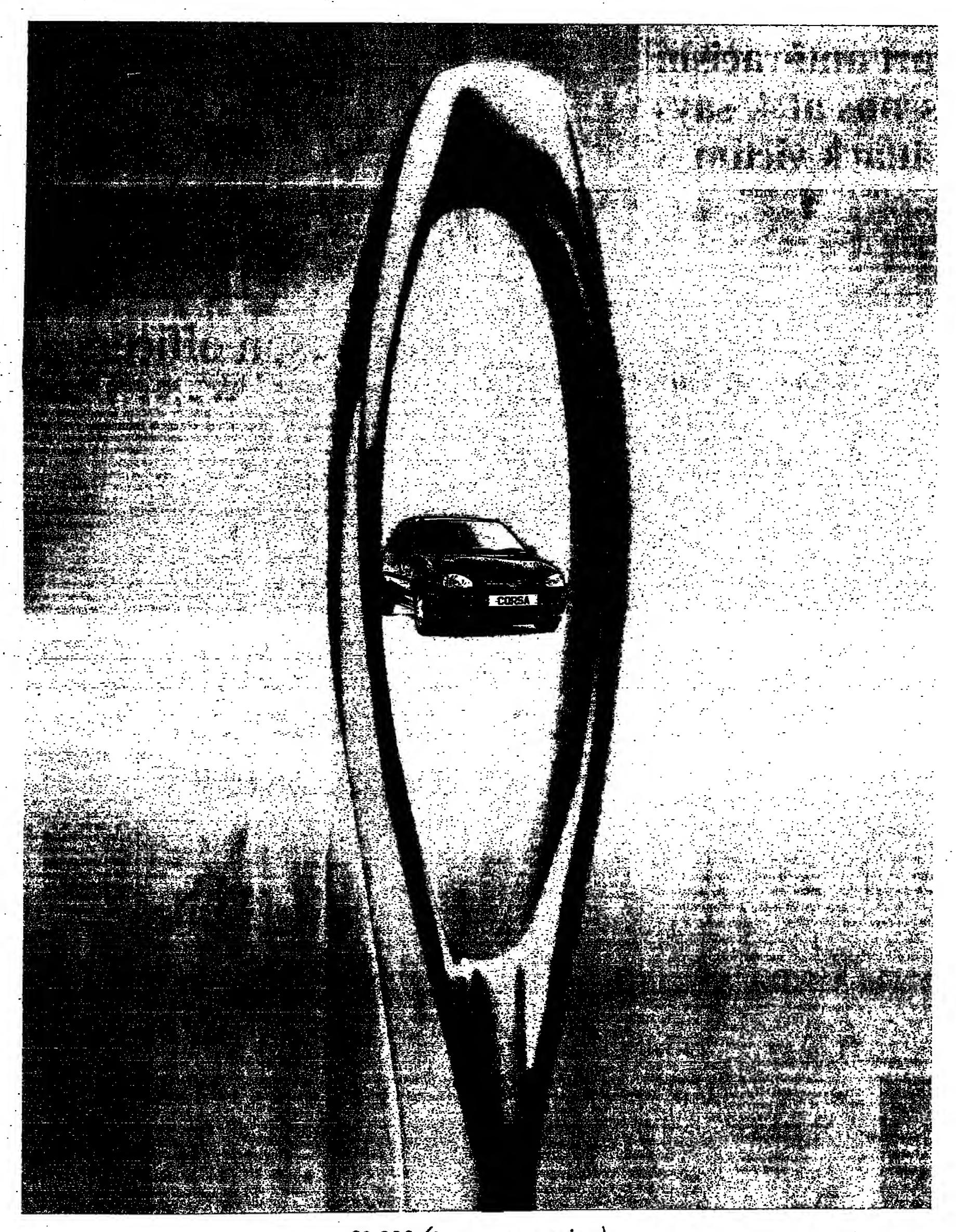
Helen Rumbelow, page 18



St George's Chapel: 500 guests will be inside



Police patrols make themselves visible on the Golden Mile in Blackpool at night and are ready to put a stop to any mayhem as soon as it starts



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Strike plan to save teachers at bad schools

By JOHN O'LEARY **EDUCATION EDITOR**

THE largest classroom union agreed a programme of strikes yesterday designed to prevent teachers in failing schools from being sacked.

Hundreds of teachers in schools that make insufficient progress within two years of failing an inspection are having to apply for their own posts under the Government's "Fresh Start" scheme. Most lose their jobs, the annual conference of the National Union of Teachers was told, as schools are restructured under new leadership.

The Government's programme aims to rescue failing schools by closing them and reopening them under a new name. But delegates at the conference agreed unanimously to ballot for industrial action if the policy led to redundancies among teachers.

Doug McAvoy, the NUT's general secretary, told the meeting in Brighton that teachTEAMWORK PLEA

The president of the second biggest teaching un-ion called yesterday for "teamwork and sharing". rather than confrontation with the Government. Bill Mortey, president of the National Association of Schoolmasters and Union of Women Teachers. made his speech calling for a spirit of mutual accommodation at the opening of the organisation's annual conference in Eastbourne.

being sacked, should be paid more than their colleagues elsewhere. "It is difficult to imagine a teacher who would want to apply for a job in a school that is in need of special measures.

"Who would want to apply for a job if the likelihood was that the teachers would do their best to turn round the ers in failing schools, far from school, yet face the prospect of

Start anti-racism lessons at 4, says attack victim

By Our Education Editor

A BLACK teacher who was the victim of a violent racist attack at her South London primary school called yesterday for anti-racist education from the age of four.

Alison Moore, who addressed the National Union of Teachers' conference with her arm in a sling as a result of injuries sustained in the attack 14 months ago, told delegates that she had not recovered psychologically, either. Having told the conference in an emotional address a year ago that she was looking forward to returning to school, she still had not been able to do so on a permanent basis.

The 31-year-old teacher was attacked in the playground by four white youths after staying late at Sandhurst junior school, in Lewisham. She has since had death threats and had National Front slogans daubed on her front door.

Ms Moore told a fringe meeting that children should receive anti-racist education "from reception class to university". Lessons should include

African history and awareness of other cultures, including their music and food.

"Even the most hard-core racists go out at the weekend to have a curry," Ms Moore said. "Why are they having curry or buying Chinese food? It is because we are contributing to society, and that needs to be stressed so that some myths can be eradicated."

Ms Moore added: "Black people did not come to England to take people's jobs or take away members of the opposite sex or drain the social security system. We are here because we were invited here. We are here because hundreds of years ago Britain went into what is now called the Third World and plundered it, as well as taking people as

The conference unanimously backed a motion calling for the national curriculum to include anti-racism as an integral and explicit part. It also demanded that teacher training courses be revised to include the subject.

a clearout of staff if it doesn't come out of special meas-

Kevin Doherty told delegates that he had been made redundant from George Orwell School, in Islington, North London, and the majority of his colleagues had not applied for their jobs back when the local authority decided to close the school and turn it into an arts and media college. "Can you imagine what it has been like for those pupils in schools that have known they are going to be closed down over a period of a year? It has been extremely unset-

Anne Antonio, of the Brighton and Hove branch, said that only three of the 43 teachers at Marina High School had been guaranteed their jobs under a Fresh Start scheme. "Our members are facing redundancy. How many more around the country will face them

When Marina High was the Stanley Deason School, in the 1980s, it was popular with the middle-class residents of Kemptown. Brighton, but the demand for places has dwindled since it failed an inspection in 1996. A new head teacher was appointed last week and the classroom posts will be filled soon.

Andrew Swainston, of Lambeth in South London, said Lillian Bayliss School, one of 18 to be "named and shamed" by. ministers shortly after the Government came to power, was being restructured under the Fresh Start programme. None of the teachers applying for their old jobs had so far been guaranteed employment in September.

Mr Swainston said that, five years ago, black teachers had formed more than half the staff of the school. By September, there would be none on full-time contracts.

Martin Reed, for the union's executive, said that the Government's approach was scapegoating teachers for more deep-seated problems. "Fresh Start is a con. It's a betrayal of the education service, a betrayal of teachers and, more than anything, it is a betrayal of children in those schools." ☐ In a separate debate, delegates restated the union's

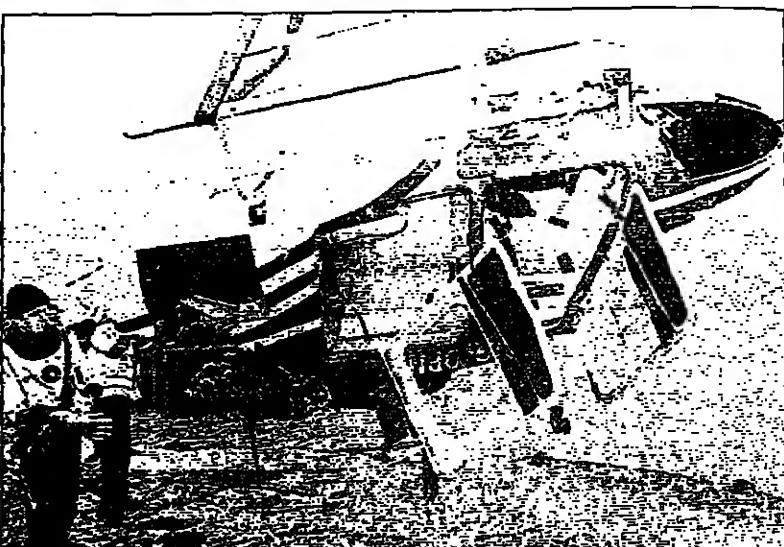
claim for the equivalent of a four-day week to give teachers more time to prepare lessons and mark work.

The demand comes as part of the cross-union campaign for a national contract for teachers, guaranteeing low class sizes and a break every two hours.



Air-sea rescue: the lifeboat crew return with the two survivors from the helicopter that crashed off Lyme Regis yesterday, bottom left, and then carry ashore Lisa Burgess, the injured pregnant woman, above. The helicopter, below right, was later recovered from the sea. Full story, page 1





Freemason officers are given ultimatum

JACK STRAW has given chief constables three weeks to set up voluntary registers for police officers to declare

whether they are Freemasons. The Home Secretary's demand comes as a survey by The Times found that only a small minority of forces have responded to growing pressure from MPs and ministers for action to ease public anxiety about the influence

of Freemasons in the justice system. Today all 43 forces in England and Wales will receive a letter from Mr Straw urging them to have registers in place by the end of this month. Home Office officials say that, if forces do not set them up, or officers do not sign them, the Home Secretary will legislate for compulsory registers. The regBy Stewart Tendler, crime correspondent

isters would be used to investigate complaints of bias or corruption.

Three years ago, chief constables accepted that police should be more open about Freemasonry, but the Times survey found that just two forees had registers for all ranks. Two others had them only for senior officers and five more were putting registers in place, but others have no plans to mon-

itor Masonic membership. The voluntary registers are seen by the Home Office as a way of testing how well checks can work before a decision is taken on the next move. Mr Straw also plans changes so that all police recruits will have to declare wheth-

er they are Freemasons, and legislation to open registers to public inspection. But the Times survey shows that many chief constables will not act unless the registers are compulsory. The survey brought a response from 35 forces, of which 25 have no plans for a registers. Only the Derbyshire force and Avon and Somerset have registers. The Derbyshire register has one

entry out of a force strength of 1,700. South Wales has a register for highranking officers. Dyfed-Powys has a register for all officers from the rank of superintendent upwards, but no one is registered as a Freemason. The Sussex force is launching a policy that officers

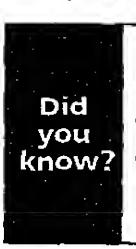
cannot have undeclared interests and they are to sign individual statements. Sir Paul Condon, Commissioner of the Metropolitan Police, attacked police membership of lodges three years ago. His force is planning a register. as are Devon and Cornwall, Hertford-

shire, Merseyside and North Wales. The forces without plans for registers include Bedfordshire. Cambridgeshire, Cheshire, City of London, Cumbria, Dorset, Durham, Essex, Greater Manchester, Hampshire, Humberside, Kent, Lancashire, Leicestershire. Lincolnshire. Northamptonshire, Northumbria, South Yorkshire, Staffordshire, Suffolk, Warwickshire, West Mercia. West Midlands, West Yorkshire and Wiltshire.

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THERE'S NO SUBSTITUTE FOR THE OU EXPERIENCE

Police praise both sides for peaceful start to parades

BY AUDREY MAGEE

THE first of the year's loyalist parades passed off peacefully in Belfast yesterday after nationalist residents agreed to call off protests. The new spirit of compromise bolstered hopes that the 3,000 parades during the marching season would be largely trouble-free.

The Apprentice Boys parade along the mainly nationalist Lower Ormeau Road in South Belfast has ended in violence in recent years. The mood yesterday was very different and police praised both sides for their restraint; community leaders hoped it would set an example.

The Apprentice Boys have paraded along the Lower Ormeau Road since 1904. However, nationalist residents have disputed their right to march, leading to a ban on the parade since 1995. It was banned again this year by the Parades Commission and nationalists, in an act of conciliation, abandoned their plans to hold a 15-hour counter-demonstration. Instead, they stayed at home as police at a lightly manned barricade waited for the arrival at 11am of 30 members of the Ballynaseigh Club. walking towards the city centre to join thousands of other Apprentice Boys in the annual

Easter Monday parade. The Ballynafeigh Apprentice Boys marched peacefully to the barrier and handed in a letter of protest to the police. Tommy Cheevers, a leading member, said: "It is so disap-



Apprentice Boys making their way to the barricade

pointing that lat a time when we are trying to bring about change in our country, a bit more tolerance, a bit better understanding of each other, that the people now running away from dialogue are the resi-

The Apprentice Boys, who were then bused to the centre of Belfast, offered to hold talks with residents to resolve the dispute. However, Gerard Rice of the Lower Ormeau Residents Committee dismissed a suggestion of talks as a "fabri-Despite the bickering, police

and community leaders were delighted that the parade passed off peacefully. The RUC praised both sides "for managing to reach a peaceful compromise", while community leaders hoped the outcome would serve as guidance to the half dozen highly controver-

sial parades to be held across Northern Ireland this sum-The most difficult is at

Drumcree in Portadown. where Orangemen are still camped out, demanding the right to walk down the nationalist Garvaighy Road. The men have been there since early last July.

The Government is making behind-the-scenes attempts to resolve the standoff. Tony Blair met both sides in the dispute last week during his marathon session of talks at Hillsborough Castle. David Trimble, the First Minister and leader of the Ul-

ster Unionist Party, is under increasing pressure to meet the residents of Garvaghy Road, which forms part of his constituency, in an attempt to defuse the potential for serious conflict this summer.

NEWS IN BRIEF Banks open for savings deadline

Banks stayed open yesterday to cope with savers aiming to beat the midnight deadline for Peps and Tessas. Pep sales for March were up by about 30 per cent on last year. the Halifax said. About £1.5 billion has flooded the stock market in ten days, and could push it to a new high tomorisa demand, page 44

Boy, 2, drowns

A boy aged two drowned after falling from a pleasure boat into the Thames. He had been playing with his brother and sister while their father. from Windsor, renovated the vessel at Donnington Bridge.

Presenter moved

The broadcaster Sheena Me-Donald, who was seriously injured when she was hit by a police van in London in February, has been transferred to a hospital in her home town of Edinburgh.

Pate withdrawn

Safeway has withdrawn a make of Belgian paté after customers in Herne Bay. Kent, had symptoms of food poisoning. Shops are telling customers not to eat the delicatessen's Farmhouse Pätė.

Ratted on poteen

Irish police found dead rats in a vat of poteen during a raid on an illegal distillery in a remote part of Co Donegal. Inspector Greg Sullivan said: This is a warning to anyone not to touch the stuff."

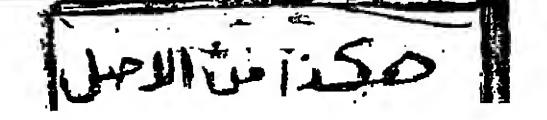
PLEASE HELP THEM



For the past seven months, International Care and Relief has been a leading aid agency assisting over 40.000 Kosovo refugees. Our Emergency Relief Fund is now braced for unprecedented demand as Nato begin strikes. ICR is now preparing for the worst, as a mass exodus of refugees takes place. Anthony Loyd's daily reports in The Times have graphically described the terrible suffering that has been endured by the people of Kosovo. ICR has already assisted over 40,000 Kosovo refugees who fled to neighbouring Montenegro, their homes and livelihoods destroyed. We are now appealing to you for donations which are urgently needed to provide emergency relief supplies. Our partner agency's trucks are waiting in Italy so that emergency aid can transported to refugee areas as quickly as possible. Thank you.

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MSPs will demand more pay

MEMERS of the Scottish parliament a to use its historic first term to demed a 15 per cent pay increase an their 40,000 salaries.

Toric Liberal Democrats and conist Vationalists plan to light a pay setament approved by the Governmerpecause it would give MSPs a hasicalary £0.000 less than that paid to estminster MPs. The oppo-sition pries claim that the Senior Salaries eview Board settlement accepted Donald Dewar, the Scotrish Sectary, last week showed "contempt" the new administration. Becaus no single party is likely to emerge fter next month's elections with anyerall majority, Labour is

likely tole outvoted on the issue.

The Heral Democrat MP Donald

Jason Allardyce on calls for Holyrood salaries to equal those of MPs and the Scottish National Party con-

Gorrie, who is standing for Holyrood, said that MSPs deserved as much as Members at Westminster because they would be at least as busy. He said: "I am sure this matter will be raised in the parliament carly on. I will certainly support parity with Westminster.

Mr Gorrie is also furious that the Government has agreed an allowance limit for office and staff of £39,000 a year, £10,000 less than at Westminster. "I suspect an edict has gone out that no impression may be created that Holyrood is on a par with Westminster," he said.

Party spokesmen for the Tories from Scotland, including three Tri-

dent submarines based at Faslane firmed that they would support near Glasgow. moves in Holyrood to bring MSP pay five Labour candidates likely to be into line with that of their Westminelected, and Scottish National Party

ster counterparts. MSPs are expected to clock up between 900 and 1,000 hours a year, compared with the 1,300 of Westminster MPs. A move by MSPs to declare Scotland a nuclear-free zone could lead to constitutional tensions between London and Edinburgh. A powerful cross-party alliance of candidates like-

ly to be elected to Holyrood has

the withdrawal of nuclear weapons

and Tory MSPs who will argue that Britain must retain its nuclear deteragreed to back a motion calling for rent and keep it in Scotland. Although responsibility for nuclear

The anti-nuclear group includes

candidates who expect around 45 of

their number to win seats. Several

Liberal Democrat candidates have

also promised to back the motion,

which was suggested by Sconish

CND. It could be enough to tip the

balance, in a vote, against Labour

weapons is reserved at Westminster.

losing a Holyrood vote on the issue would be a blow for the Prime Minister and Mr Dewar, who is likely to lead the Scottish parliament.

Anti-nuclear campaigners believe a successful vote in Holyrood would send a powerful message to the Ministry of Defence. The SNP has given warning that it may seek to embarass the MoD further by holding a referendum on the issue in Scotland.

Johann Lamont, a Labour candidate and CND member in Glasgow. said she would back an anti-nuclear motion and call for the parliament to initiate a debate on nuclear disarmament. She said that it was still the policy of the Scottish Labour Party to oppose Trident and that Labour MSPs should reflect the views of the party.

HUW EVANS

NEWS IN BRIEF

Mustard gas found on tip

Chemical warfare agents including mustard gas and phosgene have been unearthed in a Wiltshire village. More than 100 glass phials were found in an old rubbish tip 400 metres from cottages at Winterbourne Gunner. Staff at the Chemical and Biological Defence Centre at Porton Down have confirmed that the containers were full of liquid containing chemical warfare compounds. It is believed the phials date from before the Second World War. Troops from a specialist ordnance disposal unit of the Royal Engineers have been working for months to check fields around the village for buried munitions. They say the area is likely to contain other rubbish pits. An army spokesman said scientists had calculated that the risk from a leak or breakage of any of the containers would have extended only about 50 metres from the pit, which is on ministry land.

Police seize £20m drugs

Four men were arrested when police seized drugs worth £20 million as they were being transferred to a van at a layby near Newark, Nottinghamshire, from a lorry that had travelled from the Continent. Among the baul were 250kg of cocaine and amphetamines and 100kg of canabis resin. A National Investigation Services spokesman said: "This is without question one of the biggest ever drugs hauls in Britain." Police had followed the van from the North West. The four men will appear in court in Manchester.

Child murder plot remands

Two men were remanded in custody yesterday charged with plotting to kill young girls. Paul Thomas Elkington, 46, and Michael Williams, 49, were both remanded to reappear at Wolverhampton Magistrates' Court on April 13. Elkington, of nofixed abode, and Williams. of Wolverhampion, appeared before Stipendiary Magistrate Roman Bereza. charged with conspiracy to murder female children aged between two and seven on a date between March 29 and April 3 this

Memorably card sharp

A labourer who can recite every word in the Book of Revelation is expected to be named in the next edition of The Guinness Book of Records for memorising a pack of shuffled cards. John Burrows, 37, of Tonyrefail, South Wales, memorised all 52 cards in a freshly shuffled pack in 34.35 seconds. He has moved on to his local telephone directory, from which be can remember all the names and numbers up to H. He started memory training in 1986 to give him the edge in poker games.

Cheese chase is back on

The annual cheeserolling races down a hillside in Gloucestershire are to resume in May after being cancelled last year because of safety fears. In 1997 there were 33 casualties as people faking part in the four races at Cooper's Hill, near Cheltenham, came to grief. Now the cheeserolling -committee says it has made proper safety provisions for the event on Spring Bank Holiday Monday, when about 40 people at a time will pursue a 71b Double Gloucester down the hill. The event attracts about

5,000 speciators.

Yemen trial ultimatum

The judge in the Yemeni case against eight Britons accused of terrorism told defence lawyers to end their boycott of proceedings before the trial begins tomorrow. Judge Jamal Muhammad Omar said: "If they do not, other lawyers will be chosen." The seven lawyers pulled out of the trial a week ago in protest at not being allowed to meet their dients privately in prison. Tony Blair has written to the Yemeni Government calling for the suspects to be examined by doctors, and for the lawyers to be allowed access.

Baby's year catching up



She is a year old, but at 8lb Kallie Rogers weighs just over the average for a newborn baby. Kallie, above, was given only hours to live after being delivered three months prematurely, weighing 12oz. Her mother, Sheila, of Heathfield, Devon, said: "Her skin was almost transparent, like clingfilm only a muddy colour. We refused to give up hope that she would survive." Kallie faces years of medication for her weak liver and kidney but, despite her newborn appearance, is struggling to act like any other one-year-old. She has cut her first tooth and is trying to crawl.

New Year baby race sparks rish on chemists

BY ELEN RUMBELOW

THE fit clear evidence of a millenium baby boom has come firm record sales in family planing products as the key das approach.

If a suple want to become parent on New Year's Day, the idel time for conception is this wek. Most experts consider Fricy to be the best date. Chesists have reported large aps in sales of certain produs connected to planned parentood: folic acid tablets. ovulatin prediction tests and pregnácy tests. However. familyolanners gave a warning ysterday against decisions ased on novelty, rather than snuine care.

The Superdrug chain of pharmacies is waiving the E5.99 te for its pregnancy testing ki between April 10 and May 7 Among other business-& prenoting the millennium btby kom is Yorkshire Televison, which will show a night of programmes called Birth Rice 2000 on Saturday night. Awebste called Babyworld is tring p recruit couples so that it can show a millennium bith live on the Internet.

The Fimily Planning Associabn is starting a campaign its week, entitled "A baby is so life, not just for the millennim." It comes after hospitals gee warnings that their standars of tare would be reduced beause of the demands of a

ne year baby booms. Having a millennium baby is very romantic notion, but threality will be very differen" a spokesman for the associaon said. "If you really wat a child, why not give it a beer chance in life by plannig for it later in the year. who the system will not be

dagerously overloaded?" ww.ltn.co.uk ITN millennium



Blaenavon's industrial landscape is dominated by the winding gear of Big Pit, a conserved coalmine that is open to visits from the public

Blaenavon: Taj Mahal of the Valleys

A FORMER ironworking and coal mining area in South Wales is being put forward as a world heritage site. If successful, it would share the same international status as the Taj Mahal, the Great Wall of China and Venice.

The Blaenavon industrial landscape in Torfaen has been selected by Chris Smith, the Culture Secretary, to compete for the honour awarded by Unesco. The site is distinguished by four massive hillside furnaces — vestiges of its former industrial heyday -and Big Pit, a conserved mine now. open to visitors. It has jumped ahead of the Lake District, the New Forest, Shakespeare's Stratford and the Royal Botanical Gardens at Kew, West London, in the list of British sites being

considered by ministers. Among landmarks already boasting bay site, with links to Babyworld | the coveted status are Stonehenge and

Valerie Elliott on unlikely world heritage site

Avebury, Blenheim Palace and Park, the Tower of London, the City of Bath. Ironbridge Gorge and Hadrian's Wall military zone. World heritage status is

a huge boost to tourism. Blaenavon, at the head of the South Wales Valleys, may seem an unlikely choice. But the Government was told by Unesco officials to steer clear of palaces, cathedrals and historic towns and to come up with places linked to industrial heritage or natural land-

Blaenavon's industrial past dates from the late 16th century, when the area was crossed by a horse-drawn railway. The landscape also includes a stretch of the Brecknock and Abergavenny Canal and Britain's oldest existing railway and canal interchange warehouses, which date from

was of a type "generally under-represented on the current world heritage list". He accepted that people campaigning for other British sites would be disappointed, but said that he would put forward the Dorset and East Devon coast and the historic village of New Lanark for world heritage status to mark the millennium.

Mr Smith also has responsibility for with Blaenavon this year. The full list of sites drawn up by Mr

choosing sites in British overseas territories and has picked the town of St George, Bermuda, to be submitted

Smith for consideration for nomination by Britain for world heritage status in the next five to ten years is:

Chatham naval base, Kent the Cornish mining industry: Darwin's home and workplace; the Derwent Valley; Mr Smith said last night that the site Dorset and East Devon coast: Roval Botanic Gardens, Kew; the Lake District: Liverpool commercial centre and waterfront, Manchester and Salford: the Monkwearmouth/Jarrow monastic sites: the New Forest, the Paddington/Bristol railway: Saltaire: Shakespeare's Stratford; the Wash and North Norfolk coast: the Cairngorms, the Flow Country: the Forth rail bridge: New Lanark: Pontcysyllte aqueduct, Wrexham; Mount Stewart.

> Co Down. From the overseas territories be has chosen Anguilla Fountain Cavern and Gibraltar Fortress.

Outlook for 2001 is floods, fires and record heat

By NICK NUTTALL **EVIRONMENT CORRESPONDENT**

REORD temperatures are being forast for the start of the next millenum because of global warming. Sentists estimate that rising carbordioxide levels, aggravated by a such return of El Niño, will push terreratures in 2001 or 2002 beyond

the of last year, the previous hottest. Eperts are saying that the high teneratures will increase the risk of naral disasters. Phil Jones, of the cli-

matic research unit at the University of East Anglia, an adviser to the Government on climate change, gave a warning yesterday of hurricanes in Mexico and parts of the South Pacific, and violent storms in the Eastern Pacific and places such as California, Peru and Ecuador. Severe floods. linked with warmer-than-average winter temperatures, could hit Britain and the rest of Europe.

He said the severity of the weather systems could be the most violent in modern times "because there will be more energy in the system. There may also be extreme droughts in places such as Papua New Guinea, Indonesia and parts of Australia." said Professor Jones, whose unit works with the Meteorological Office's Hadley Centre to compile global temperature patterns.

Forest fires of the kind that recently destroyed more than four million hectares in northern Brazil, two million hectares in the Khabarovsk district of Russia and large areas of Indonesia may flare up. Professor Jones said:

"If nothing is done a lot of the forest fires in places such as Sumatra and Borneo are likely to reoccur, along with regional smogs."

There is also concern for corals, vital nurseries for fish and natural sea defences for low-lying islands such as the Maldives. Last year large numbers of reefs were killed by unusually high sea-surface temperatures.

The forecast is based on rising levels of greenhouse gases, temperatures trends during the past 40 years. and mounting evidence that El Niño

is becoming more frequent and more severe. Professor Jones said it now seemed likely that the next El Niño will hit in 2001 or 2002, helping to make that year "probably the warm-

est for more than a millennium". The warnings come as leading academics, environmentalists, politicians and churchmen have signed a declaration urging governments to agree a cut of 70 to 80 per cent in carbon emissions on 1990 levels.

Forecast, page 22



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New faces tipped to join Cabinet



Reid: Blairite in Prescott's team

JOHN REID and Paul Murphy have emerged as strong candidates to enter the Cabinet when Tony Blair makes his next reshuffle over the coming three months.

Dr Reid, currently Transport Minister, is a leading Blairise in John Prescott's predominantly old Labour Department of Environment, Transport and the Regions. Mr Murphy is given much credit in Whitehall for his strong performance as one of Mo Mowlam's deputies at the Northern Ireland Office. The two ministers could figure in what the Prime Minister intends to be a limited reconstruction after the Scottish and Welsh elections.

The overall size of the changes that the Prime Minister makes to the Government makes this summer could depend on discussions he is expected to have with Frank Dobson, the Health Secretary. According to government insiders, Mr Dobson and Dr Mowlam are Mr Blair's preferred choices as Labour candidate to become Mayor of London.

Mr Blair has left open the door for a as the Labour nominee. But no plausible candidate from the business world has appeared and there is widespread expec-tation that Mr Blair will tell Mr Dobson that he wants him to become the capital's

Philip Webster reports on the reshuffle that is likely to follow Scots and Welsh elections

first elected mayor, a post that will be one of the most powerful in the country. Mr Dobson is privately resistant to the idea, but many believe that he will, in the end, be persuaded. Dr Mowlam, a very popular figure, is also understood to be a choice highly favoured in Downing Street. But she is believed to be looking for a central role in government when her time in the Province ends.

Mr Blair believes that either of them would be far more popular with London voters than Ken Livingstone, the last leader of the Greater London Council, who is still struggling to become the Labour can-didate amid signals that he will be kept

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ward for his central role in the campaign

London members to decide the choice.

to get Mr Michael chosen as the Labour candidate for First Minister, after Ron Davies stepped down.

Helen Liddell, one of Mr Dewar's deputies, who has been playing a leading role in the Scottish campaign, is in the off the list that will go before the party's running to be Scottish Secretary, but she may be edged out by Brian Wilson, cur-rently a minister at Trade and Industry. Mr Murphy is thought to be in line for the post of Welsh Secretary if Alun Mr Blair is widely expected to leave his Big Four ministers — Mr Prescott, Robin Michael becomes First Minister after the elections to the new assembly. Similarly, Cook, Jack Straw and Gordon Brown the post of Scottish Secretary will be vacant if Donald Dewar sees off the Scotin their jobs until the general election. With Stephen Byers having moved to the Department of Trade and Industry after Peter Mandelson's resignation and David Blunken considered difficult to replace tish Nationalist challenge to become First After the elections the Scottish and Welsh Offices will be scaled down, with at Education and Employment, the scope fewer ministerial posts. Peter Hain, one for wide-scale changes is circumscribed. of the junior Welsh Office ministers, is

Should other Cabinet vacancies occur. expected to be promoted, partly as re-Tessa Jowell, the Blairite Health Minister, would be in line for promotion. Patricia Hewitt, the highly rated Economic Secretary to the Treasury, seems certain to be promoted soon.

Dr Reid is felt by senior ministers to have deserved Cabinet rank. Mr Blair might decide to keep him at Environment to balance Mr Prescott's more traditionalist team, but make him a second Cabinet minister within that department.

Secretary of State

Sam Galbraith

Lord Sewel

Peter Hain

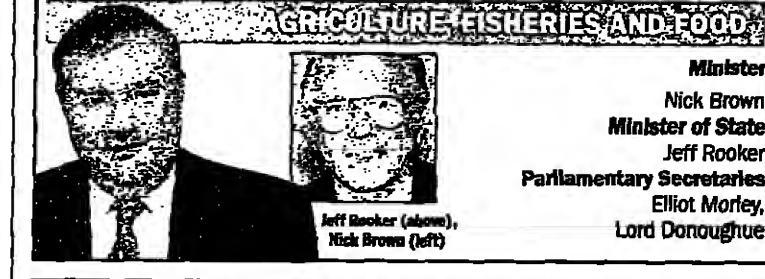
Calum Macdonald



Murphy: one of Mowlam's donies

amis Complete list of Government and

Minister in Scotland.



Minister Nick Brown Minister of State Jeff Rooker **Parliamentary Secretaries** Elliot Morley Lord Donoughue

ECABINET OFFICE Minister for the Cabinet Office. Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster Jack Cunningham **Minister of State**

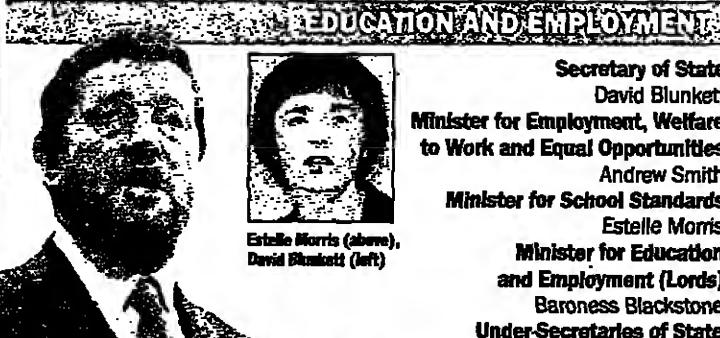


Lord Falconer of Thoroton QC **Parliamentary Secretary** Peter Kilfovle Lord Folcoper of Thoroton (above) CULTURE MEDIA AND SPORT Secretary of State

> Chris Smith **Under-Secretaries of State** Tony Banks (Minister for Sport) Alan Howarth (Minister for Arts) Janet Anderson (Minister for Tourism. Film and Broadcasting)



Secretary of State George Robertson Minister for Defence Procuremen Lord Gilbert Minister for the Armed Forces Doug Henderson **Under-Secretary of State** John Spellar



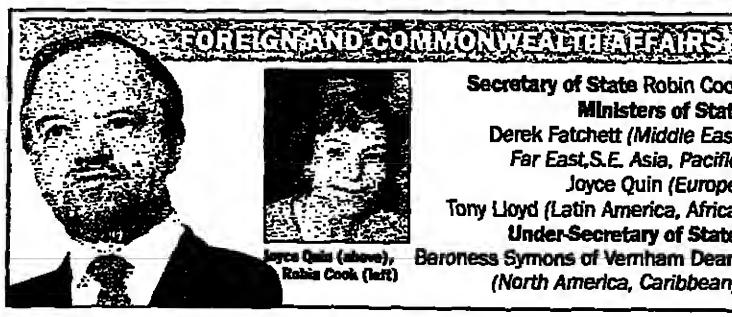
Secretary of State David Blunkett Minister for Employment, Welfare to Work and Equal Opportunities **Andrew Smith** Minister for School Standards

Estelle Morris Minister for Education and Employment (Lords) Baroness Blackstone **Under-Secretaries of State** Charles Clarke, Margaret Hodge, George Mudie



Secretary of State John Prescott Minister for the Environment Michael Meacher Minister for Local Government and Housing Hilary Armstrong Minister for the Regions, Regeneration and Planning Richard Caborn Minister of Transport **Under-Secretaries of State**

John Reid Nick Raynsford (Minister for London and Construction) Glenda Jackson (Minister for Transport in London) Lord Whitty (Minister for Roads and Road Alan Meale



Secretary of State Robin Cook Ministers of State Derek Fatchett (Middle East, Far East, S.E. Asia, Pacific) Joyce Quin (Europe) Tony Lloyd (Latin America, Africa) **Under-Secretary of State** Baroness Symons of Vernham Dean (North America, Caribbean)



Secretary of State Frank Dobson Minister of State John Denham Minister for Public Health Tessa Jowel **Under-Secretaries of State** Baroness Hayman John Hutton

The Cabinet

Prime Minister, First Lord of the Treasury and Minister for the Civil Service Tony Blair

Deputy Prime Minister and Secretary of State for the Environment, Transport and the Regions John Prescott

Chancellor of the Exchequer - Gordon Brown

Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs - Robin Cook Lord Chancellor - Lord Irvine of Lairg QC

Secretary of State for the Home Department - Jack Straw Secretary of State for Education and Employment - David Blunkett President of the Council and Leader of the Commons - Margaret Beckett

Minister for the Cabinet Office and Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster - Jack Cunningham

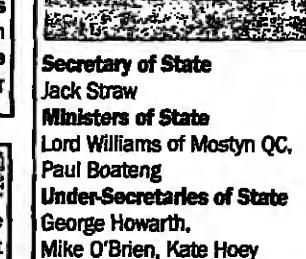
Secretary of State for Scotland - Donald Dewar Secretary of State for Defence - George Robertson

> Secretary of State for Health - Frank Dobson Parliamentary Secretary to the Treasury (Chief Whip) - Ann Taylor Secretary of State for Culture, Media, Sport - Chris Smith

Secretary of State for Northern Ireland - Marjorie Mowlam Secretary of State for international Development - Clare Short Secretary of State for Social Security - Alistair Darling

Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food - Nick Brown Lord Privy Seal, Leader of the House of Lords and Minister for Women **Baroness Jay of Paddington**

> Secretary of State for Trade and Industry - Stephen Byers Secretary of State for Wales - Alun Michael Chief Secretary to the Treasury - Alan Milburn

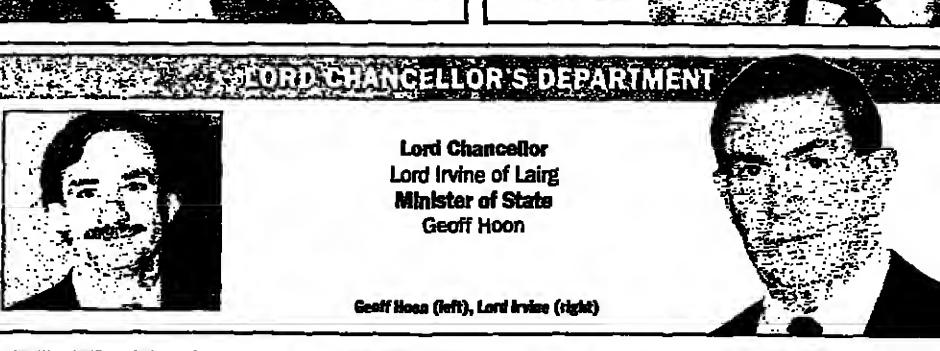






Attorney-General John Morris QC Solicitor-General Ross Cranston Lord Advocate Lord Hardie Solicitor-General for Scotland Colin Boyd Calle Boyd (above)

LAW OFFICERS



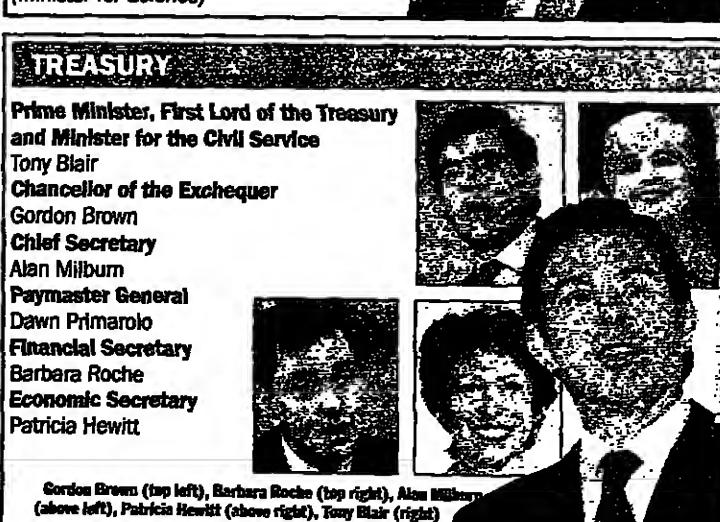


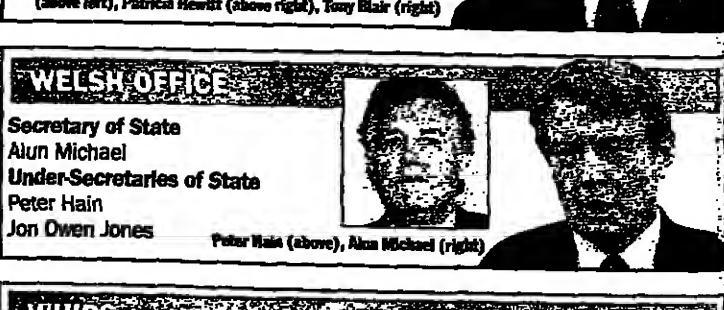




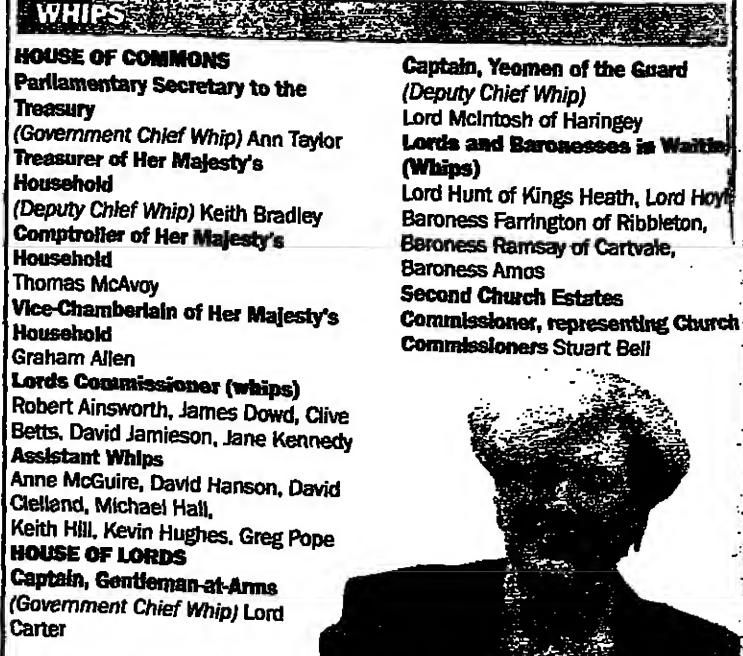
SOCIAL SECURITY







· MHEDITA



Som Taylor (right)

China leader heads for US 'snakepit'

Long-awaited isit|clouded by hostlity, writes James Pringle Beijing

APRIL

10

China's state-controlportraying President Milbsevic as hero, and one paper showing President Clinton with a Hitler mous-tache, the long-awaited visit to the US by Zhu Rongji, the Minister, which starts today has been portrayed here as a descint into a snakepit.

Mr Zha, an economist who has little experience in foreign affairs, isstarting an eight-day visit to the US at a time when Sino-US ties have been battered by disputes ranging from Beiling's huge trade deficit and China's alleged theft of nuclear secrets to human rights issues and now the Kosovo imbioglio. "It's the diplomatic test of a

lifetime, one analyst said of the visit, which includes a meeting with President Clinton in Washington and business-oriented talks in five other cities "The very best they can hope for is to get the relationship back on track."

David Shambaugh, a student of Chinese affairs at George Washington University. said: The US domestic political dimate is so hostile right now to China that Zhu is walking into a snakepit. There is no spategic glue to the relationship."

liang Zemin, the President, who rejurned last week from Europe had apparently ordered a review of Beijing's policy towards the US in the light of the hombing of Yugoslavia. a longtime ally of China. Beijing has also been edging closer to Russia. Both have been sidelined at the UN Security Council by Nato's action.

Beijing sees worrying parallels with Taiwan — in that Kosovo was Belgrade's "internal affair". China's media has lambasted he US actions, describing theth as "barbarity" while turning a blind eye to the "eth-

nic cleansing" of Kosovo. Ties had already been strained by differences over trade and Taiwan, and the fact that Beijing failed to back up its promise during Mr Clinton's visit here last June to talk to the Dalai Lama. They hit rock bottom in recent weeks over charges that China stole secrets from a US nuclear laboratory and a White House decision to seek condemnation of China at the current UN hu-

man rights forum in Geneva. China has also been infuriated by moves in Washington towards a Theatre Missile Defence system for US troops in Asia. The US claims this has been provoked by North Korean missile tests but China sees a ploy to protect Taiwan from

Beijing's military challenge. China's accession to the World Trade Organisation, thought likely at one stage to be announced during Mr Zhu's visit, has now been put on hold and several important remain unresolved.



the background of the Kosovo war is viewed as a demanding diplomatic test

Richard Latham, chairman of the American Chamber of Commerce in Beijing, said: "The focus of the visit has changed during the past few weeks. The aim now is to rebuild confidence and restore

Bangkok: Wang Xizhe, the

exiled Chinese dissident,

was stranded in Thailand

yesterday after he failed in

an attempt to return home

to pay respects to his dead

Mr Wang was travelling

on South Korean Asiana

Airlines from New York to

Beijing when he was taken

off the plane during a stop-

over in Seoul and put on a

flight to the Thai capital.

He said he would persist in

requesting a visa to visit his

homeland. His attempt to

fly home comes as Zhu

sensibility to the relationship." The American business community had not wanted a World Trade Organisation agreement that would not provide genuine market access. and China's accession had nev-

Rongji, the Chinese Prime

Minister, travels to the US

today amid growing anti-

Chinese sentiment in Con-

gress. If Mr Wang had

reached Beijing, authori-

ties would have faced the

embarrassing choice of ar-

resting him or sending him

Mr Wang incurred Bei-

jing's wrath in 1996 when

he and Liu Xiaobo, anoth-

er dissident, wrote a letter

calling for political reform,

more freedom for Tibet

and the impeachment of

President Jiang. (Reuters)

back to the US.

Dissident diverted

er been likely before the visit. he said.

Of American business hopes, Mr Latham added: "The honeymoon period is over for US firms that have been here 15 years or so. But more than 50 per cent of American companies have beer making money in China and are cautiously optimistic about future business. What they want is more transparen-

cy and lower tariffs for products brought in to China. "As for service industries like the insurance, banking and legal sectors, they just want to be able to do business in a field that will provide more jobs than hi-tech indus-

try ever could." Despite Mr Zhu's lack of experience in foreign affairs, it is thought that his no-nonsense style will go down well in America. But some are worried that, with the US enmeshed in Kososo, little attention will be paid to Mr Zhu.

Leading article, page 19

Hebron الخليل The stamp, denounced as election propaganda, is based on an 1870 painting of the divided city

Peace group boycott on Hebron stamp

FROM ASSOCIATED PRESS IN JERUSALEM

PEACE activists yesterday asked Israelis not to buy a newly-issued stamp commemorating Jewish settlement in the tense and divided West Bank city of Hebron.

However, Sigal Galil, a Postal Authority spokeswoman said the stamp is part of a commemorative series on biblical cities and had nothing to do with politics.

The 1.8 shekel (75p) stamp depicting a cluster of homes nestled in the hills of Hebron was issued in September at the suggestion of Moshe Katzav. the Tourism Minister, as part of a series also featuring the towns of Tzfat. Tiberias and Jerusalem.

Some 450 Jewish settlers live in Hebron, a town of 130,000 Palestinians. In the past few years violence has

Hebron between settlers and Palestinians and between Palestinians and the hundreds of Israeli troops stationed there to guard the settlers. The city is holy to Muslims and Jews.

The Israeli peace group Gush Shalom asked Israelis not to buy the stamp, saying it was right-wing propaganda aimed at the May 17 election. "It's unthinkable that some-

one going to the post office to buy a stamp has to co-operate with the elections propaganda." said Adam Keller, the group's spokesman. "They're not exactly commemorating the Arabs in Hebron."

But Ms Galil said the stamp was a historical depiction of Hebron, painted in 1870, and commemorating a continuous Jewish presence there. It did not feature the cottlement.

WORLD IN BRIEF

Iraqi oil pipeline hit in allied air raid

Baghdad: US and British warplanes destroyed an Iraqi oil pipe-line control station in the south of the country in the second such attack in three days, an Oil Ministry spokesman said. The attack was on the station in southern Misan province on Sunday.
It was not clear whether the raid halted the flow of crude from the Buzurgan oilfields to the Mina al-Bakr terminal on the Gulf The destruction of another oil monitoring station along the same pipeline on Friday failed to stop the flow. A military spokesman in Baghdad said one Iraqi was wounded and a house destroyed in the US and British air raids. (AFP)

Rebels kill 22 troops

Algiers: Twenty-two Algerian soldiers were killed by armed Islamic rebels near Blida, south of Algiers, the daily El Watan reported. The troops were killed in a gun battle with a "very large number of terrorists" at Melaha, near Blida in farming country. The attackers were finally surrounded by the army, the paper said. Fighting between government forces and Islamic groups has claimed more than 300 lives since March. (AFP)

10,000 die in Angola

Luanda: Ten thousand people have died since December in renewed fighting in Angola between rebel Unita forces and the government army, the weekly newspaper Fohla 8 reported. The toll included 6,000 troops from both sides and 4.000 civilians, aid workers told the paper. About ten people are being killed each day in the government-held city of Kuito, which has been a major target for rebel artillery, according to a local priest. (AP)

Easter egg spectacular

Haux, France: For the twenty-first year in a row, this southwestern village celebrated Easter Monday over a giant omelette. But this year's was the biggest yet, almost three yards in diameter and made from 4.507 eggs. Villagers woke at the crack of dawn to break the eggs and mix in 61/16 of salt and pepper, 66lb of garlic and onion, and bolb of bacon. Cooked in a pan 10ft wide, the omelette weighed about 500th and fed about 1,000 neonle. (AFP)



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PICK UP YOUR

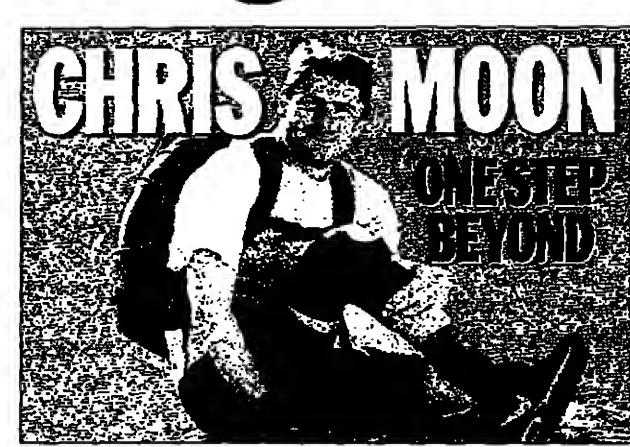
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CHRIS MOON: A STORY OF COURAGE

I stare; my lower leg has gone. I think I'm going to die



Former soldier Chris Moon, 36, lost an arm and a leg clearing a minefield in Africa but went on to run the marathon. In the first extract from his compelling story he relives the incident that changed his life

1995. The place: a northern bique. The sun is high in the sky and it's hot

Most of the minefield has been cleared. Neatly painted white sticks starkly mark the safety lanes. The vegetation is cut as short as possible to allow metal detectors to sweep close to the ground. The mined sector is obvious because of the scrub, low bushes and long thick grass. I sweep the metal detector over the parched, redbrown earth, then prod gently and sift through the soil. About five metres in front of me a small whirlwind turns through the minefield. It's a twister. They're quite common in hot climates. As the small spiral of wind twists its demented circular jig. it lifts bits of

dead grass and leaves. I turn to go, then I feel it —

cold. In the heat of the African day, how can I feel cold? A shiver runs down my spine and the hairs on the back of my neck rise. Suddenly I'm frightened. Ahead of me, at the bottom of the lane, something vile and evil is moving towards me. I have felt this before. I can only describe it as obscene, utter blackness, I must have had too much sun. I'm dehydrated. Be

reasonable. I know I must not stay here. I am starting to feel sick. My guts ache. I turn quickly and start to walk back down the safety lane. I take three paces and hear the loudest bang I've

ever heard. The noise of the explosion is ringing in my ears. Everything is calm. It's strange how the silence is so loud after an explosion. I'm lying on my chest. I feel fine. No pain. I raise my hand. It's bleeding. I can't

move it. Cautiously I start to

raise myself. I know the body produces endorphins in time of traumatic injury. I won't have pain for a minute or so.

It must have been a mine. I turn over carefully and sit up. My hand is mangled and bleeding like a squashed strawberry. I look down at my right leg. The air is sharp with the smell of the explosion and my burnt and blasted flesh.

I stare. My lower leg has completely gone. The foot has vanished. There is just a finger of splintered yellow bone surrounded by ragged pink flesh. I am surprised that my bone

is so yellow. I always thought it was white. Through the burning and stinging I fight to focus my mind. I'll be lucky to get out of this alive. I think I'm going to die. I will fight the pain, try not to moan. I will not lose control.

I must send a casualty report to the back-up team on the



Chris Moon in hospital after the blast: "Ahead of me at the bottom of the lane something vile and evil was moving towards me. I had felt this before ...'



Planning and mapping with colleagues in Cambodia, left. Undergoing demolition training in Mozambique, right-

road. It feels like ten minutes has passed since the blast, but I know it is hardly a second. I shout in a controlled voice. "Frank. I'm a casualty. I have been blown up walking down the safety lane. Lower right leg is blown off. Right hand is badly damaged. Get on the radio to the USAID helicopter. Only the two medics should come into the lane with the stretcher. Do you understand?

"Yes, sir," Frank shouts. I lie back on the shortly clipped bush grass of the safe-

ong after Douglas Bad-

er shot down his last

enemy aircraft in the

Second World War, he is still

serving his fellow citizens.

Bader's battle to fly again

after the loss of both legs con-

ty lane and I feel as if I'm burning. The right sleeve and leg of my thick cotton boiler suit are shredded to rags but it seems to have done its job of keeping flash burns to a minimum.

I look at my forearm and can see the veins, which normally stick out strong and greeny-blue, have almost disappeared. I know I'm going into shock. My throat is consumed with a burning thirst. It is on fire. It is getting worse. Sleep beckons. I know I could just drift away and die.

hear a shocked moan behind me. The medic looks at me with wide staring eyes. He puts the trauma pack down

what other injuries I have. I've been wearing body armour and eye protection. At least l

tons of my fly and pull up my boxer short elastic. I peer down and see blood around my groin. I gently put my - and stares in horror at the stump of my leg. I wonder

can see, and I know I have no stomach injuries. I wonder if I've had my balls blown off. The thought is terrifying and I fight off a rising surge of panic. I thrust my

hand between the popper but-

Inspired to get back on your feet

hand down. I breathe deeply. I check the bits. They're bleeding slightly. but everything is still intact.

Thank you, God! The medics have laid out the orange stretcher next to me. They lift me up gently and put me on the stretcher. I'm surprised they take so much care. I can't feel anything except the

burning in my throat. It's like

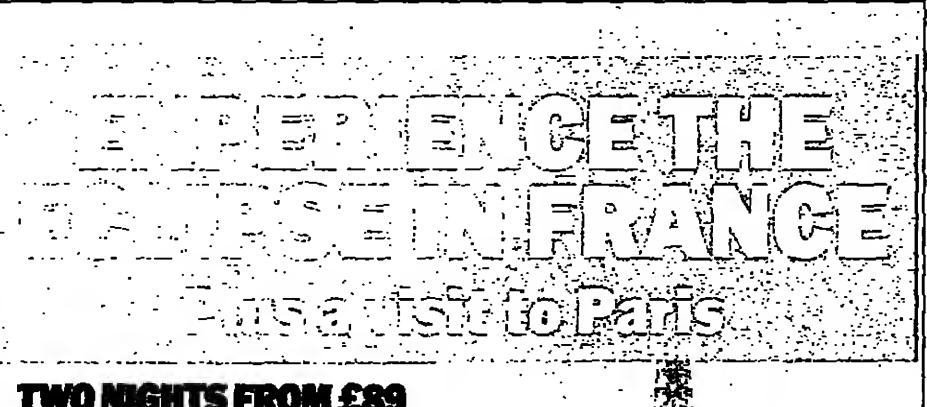
someone's poured petrol down my gullet and set fire oil I want to know where we're going. I lift my head and look ahead. There are trees and the grass is long. We're nearly there. I lie back and look at the sky again. The blue is getting more and more beautiful.

measure time in breaths but I've lost count of the number of breaths. I am being lowered. I try to raise my head. I see the outline of a shiny yellow, black and white helicopter, incongruous among the African trees and long grass. It is silent, ready and waiting. How strange; it's as if they've been expecting me. The chopper door is open and the front left seat has been taken out. The stretcher bearers' pace slows and they lower their load. I prop myself up on my left elbow and look ahead. The pilot is standing in frontol

"Don't worry, we'll have you out of here in no time." He looks at my injuries and I think he goes slightly pale I can't imagine I look good.

I lie back. My head isn't quite on the cushion. Kiad hands gently lift my head and move the padding so my neck is no longer tilted back. The tail lifts off first, then

we are airborne. The grass



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DR THOMAS STUTTAFORD

tation medicine at Queen

Mary's University Hospital,

Roehampton, said that be-

low-knee amputations were

the most successful of all

So good were the results

that, for instance, the 100 me-

tres record at the Olympics

for the disabled was only a

couple of seconds slower

than that recorded for the

The prosthesis below the

knee can be held in place by a

suction socket alone, and a

modern carbon-fibre ankle

joint system allows the joint

to be flexed or extended, the

movement someone makes

when they press the accelera-

tor of a car up and down, or

spontaneously turn in or out

when walking, as when on

the upper leg.

amputations.

standard games.

tinues to provide inspiration to thousands of limbless patients. In the early days after the loss of a limb, none but the pathologically detached can hope to be free of some degree of depression, but the example of those like Bader or Chris Moon encourages amputees who are grieving and

bilitation. The objective after an amputation and the fitting of a prosthesis is to enable a patient to regain the skills required for everyday living.

despondent and persuades

them to concentrate on reha-

It would be fantastic to still be able to climb Mount Everest, but what is really needed is self-sufficiency and the preservation of pride and this is achieved by learning to carry out such everyday tasks as washing, shaving, dressing, eating, using the lavatory and telephone and, of course, walking, even running, without too obvious

a limp. The degree of rehabilitation achieved by a patient after amputation and a limb prosthesis is not only dependent on determination, but varies according to age, weight and general health and vitality.

It is also related to the skill of the surgeon and the limbfitter, and the enthusiasm of the physician in charge of that the patient has an artifirehabilitation. The stump for below-knee

rough ground. he artificial limb can be made waterproof I for swimming, or fitted with shock absorbers for the keen golf player, It can mimic normal movements so sensitively that bystanders will usually not even realise

cial limb. Above-knee amputations amputation ideally should be pose greater problems. The about 15cm long, the skin knee is a complex joint, flaps need to be cut so the difficult to copy artificially scar is well-placed when the the comfortable stump is fashioned and does transmission of weight which

the stump has to bear presents many troubles. Despite that, above-knee prostheses have come a long way since the peg-leg of Long John Silver or even the tin legs of Douglas Bader, but some limp is inevitable.

Even patients who have

revealed that the majority of people with a below-elbow amputation don't use one. The hand is an amazingly precise instrument and depends on very keen sensory perception which, unfortunately, no piece of medicoengineering gadgetry can

The hook has changed since Captain Hook's day but

which give a pincer moveanically or electrically, between the thumb and first two fingers; but more refined

working artificial hands are still only at the research stage. Dr Soori said: "After the loss of a limb, the primary objective is to find out all about just what the person's former life was like and then. through rehabilitation and with the aid of an artificial limb, to see that so far as is possible they can be helped to meet their individual expec-

"The function of the limb must not only be adequate in regard to their work, but also to their domestic life and

they still tend to be coarse, lost their right hands may soon become adept with the slow and heavy. not have to bear weight and Good cosmetic hands are rub, and the bone ends need left, and many are therefore available and various devices to be protected by muscles of reluctant to use a below-elbow prostnesis. A recent survey has ment, worked either mech-Dr Sellaiah Soori, a consultant physician in rehabili-



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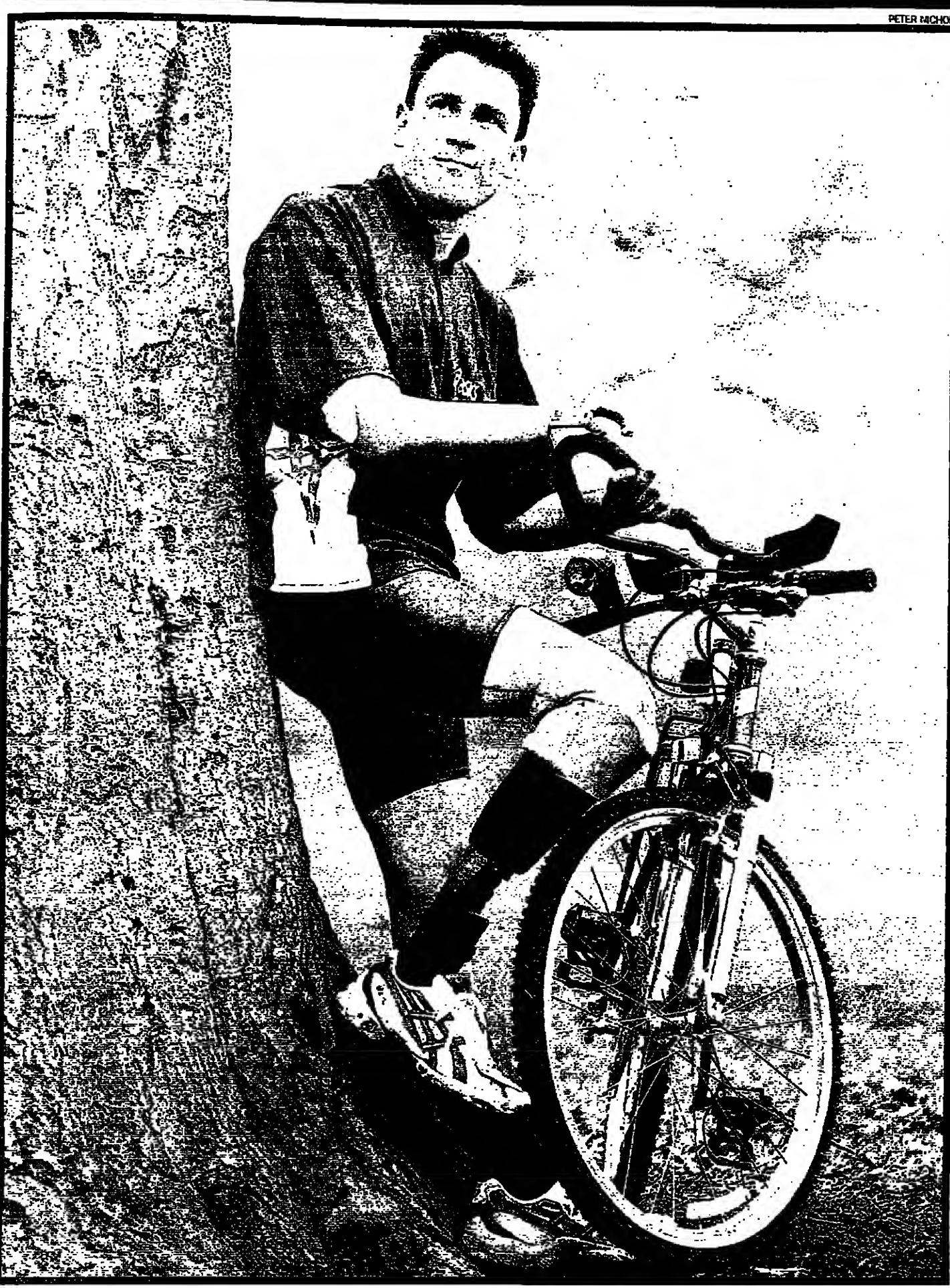
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CHRIS MOON: A STORY OF COURAGE



"As a child, when things were not going well, I thanked God I had two arms and two legs. Now I am grateful I still have one of each"

poured

petrol

Some say I won't run again. I say I will

have been in hospital for about ten days. I hope this will be the last amputation and that they have reached the last of the dirt that was blasted up into the leg. because there's not much left below the knee

I ask for the usual short back and sides, then go to great lengths to position myself exactly where they want me on the slab. As they prepare the injection. I thank God I am lucky enough to get such brilliant

When they have time, they take me out in the wheelchair and push me around outside the hospital so I can feel the sunshine and breathe fresh air. The hospital is a modern building. The front is like a well built marble-clad office block; the rest is more functional. It inspires confidence.

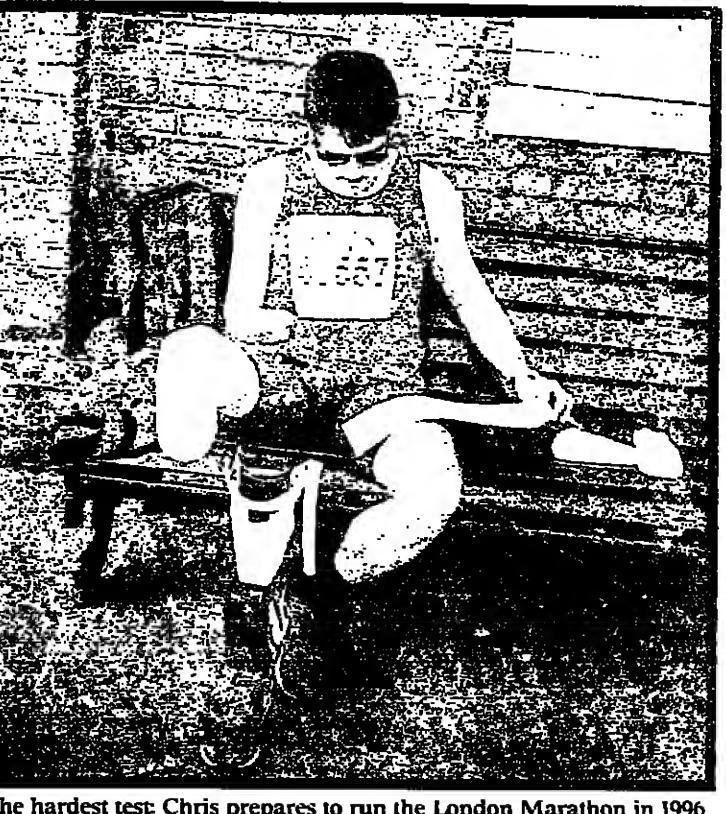
I know I don't look healthy. One of my young visitors had to rush off and throw up the other day. They all wanted to know what happened when I was blown up. If people ask me, I don't mind telling them. I suppose it's only natural that they are curious. Strangely enough. I hadn't started telling them the really gory bits when he puked.

wonder how long it will be before I can walk again. Some people think I might be able to run again, though some say I won't. I say I will. Yes. I will.

The doctor and consultant examine the stump and knee. The consultant says: "Good news. The infection is under control and we think it's safe to close the wound. I have also spoken to physio and they are getting you some crutches. Within the next week or so you should be up and about.

Every day I try to get a little stronger and to do something didn't do the day before. I'm still sleeping only a few hours at night. The rest of the time I feel as if I'm in limbo. I am aware of my surroundings and have no problem having a conversation, but I find reading and anything that requires me to concentrate difficult.

The physiotherapist arrives with an enormous package wrapped in brown paper. It feels like Christmas. Out come the crutches. She sets them to the correct height and I watch like an excited child. Carefully I put the stump of my arm on the rest. The thick bandage around my arm offers some protection. With her steadying my shoulders, I start to move cautiously around the room. We emerge into the corridor. I don't have any shoes. There is still



The hardest test: Chris prepares to run the London Marathon in 1996

a thick bandage around the flash burn on my ankle, so I probably wouldn't get a shoe on anyway. "Take small steps," she says. "You can't risk falling over yet."

I am forced to admit that it was harder than I thought it would be. The physio sensibly takes the crutches away and hides them until I have had a few more supervised sessions. Gradually we go farther and farther down the corridor and eventually I reach the hospital

As a child, when things were not going well. I used to thank God for the fact that I had two arms and two legs. Now I am even more grateful for the fact that at least I still have one of each.

TOMORROW

Kidnapped in Cambodia: 'The Khmer Rouge are running towards us waving their weapons. We are surrounded. I hope to God nobody starts shooting'

shimmers in the downdraft and we start rising above the trees. The noise is deafening. The medic is by my side and starts to open his orange bag. He gets out two drip lines and two clear plastic bags of Ringers solution. He unzips an inner pocket, removes a shiny metal hook and carefully loops it through the radio headset

hook on the roof. I look out of the window and watch the trees fly past beneath us. We are flying over the bush. We still have a long way to go. I force myself to lie still. I'm getting weaker and weaker. All I want to do is go to sleep and escape from this.

I turn my head back to the medic. He's put the needles in my elbow joints and I didn't even feel them. All I want to do is cry "Water. Water. Please give me water" but I can't speak. My throat is too dry and my voice doesn't work. I'm worried in books and films people cry for water just before they die from traumatic injury.

he trees rush past the side windows, then I look up at the sky. I back as the medic turns the drip on. Wait. l don't think he's run them through. If he hasn't, the air from the lines will probably kill me. I can't afford to take the chance. I sit up and try to explain but when I speak, nothing happens. My voice still isn't working. I point. He looks

at me sympathetically and pats my shoulder. He thinks I'm delirious, shocked out of my wits. He tries to lie me back down. I try to resist, then realise how weak I am.

I have no choice. I lie back. He reaches again for the switch. There's only one thing I can do. I'm fighting for my life. I sit up and lash out with my left hand. Then I pull the line from the inside of my right elbow with my left hand.

right hand doesn't work so I It's like bite the hard plastic end of the needle and pull my arm someone's away. It comes out: I let go with my teeth and watch it drop on to my dirty. bloodstained

I have to put out

down my the fire in my throat. Ringers solution is isotonic the same concentration as blood. It's absorbed almost immediately through the gut

wall. I have no stomach injuries, so I can drink. It's not standard medical procedure. but I feel like I'm dying from lack of fluid. I've never been closer to the edge of panic.

I hold my right arm awkwardly to the side and reach up with my left. The bag is soft and warm. I push it up and off the loop. Out of the corner of my eye I see the pilot turn his head, wondering what's going

on. I'm sorry I can't explain. My mind races. I didn't know I could think this fast. The inferno in my throat is consuming me. I think my head is

about to explode. I am moving my left hand towards my mouth. I watch the liquid in the clear plastic get closer. It is the elixir of life. I bite through the plastic and the warm liquid floods into my mouth. I tip my head back and

gulp greedily. Relief floods through me. It's better than diving into a cool, blue pool on a scorch-

ing day. We touch down. Rupert watches and waits. The engine becomes quiet and the rotors He bends down, leans forward and runs under the rotors to the door. He opens it and says: "Don't worry mate, we'll

soon be sitting down having a beer and a chat somewhere cool." I'm lucky he's switched on. I'm doubly fortunate because he's our best

As they lift me out I feel weak and tired, but I have to know. "Do you think I'm going to die?"

"No. You just won't be quite as pretty as you used to be." I've never been called pretty before and it's not high on my list of priorities, so that's all

The hospital is the enormous single-storey concrete building near by. They put me on a battered trolley and wheel me in. They cut off my clothes. I hear the scissors. They examine the wounds and search for other injuries that are not immediately apparent They keep talking but I can't hear what people are saying. All these things seem to be hap-

pening around me. Rupert goes to check aircraft availability. The nurse says: "We will stabilise you and fly you out as soon as we can." A few minutes later someone says: "Don't worry, you'll be fine. Now we're giving you general anaesthetic. You won't feel any more pain. You will be OK, don't worry." That's what I used to say to sick animals as I stroked them while the vet was putting them

I see a small hypodermic, held in an anonymous surgical glove, approaching my forearm. I don't feel the injection. The smell of disinfectant fills my nostrils. I'm tired, more tired than I thought .

"Mr Moon." A man's voice. "Mr Moon, can you hear

It must be the doctor. I try to speak but only manage to groan. My eyes are too heavy

I force a shaky reply. "Yes." "You're in hospital in South Africa. Mr Moon. You were injured in an explosion. Do you remember?" "Yes. I had my lower right

leg blown off."

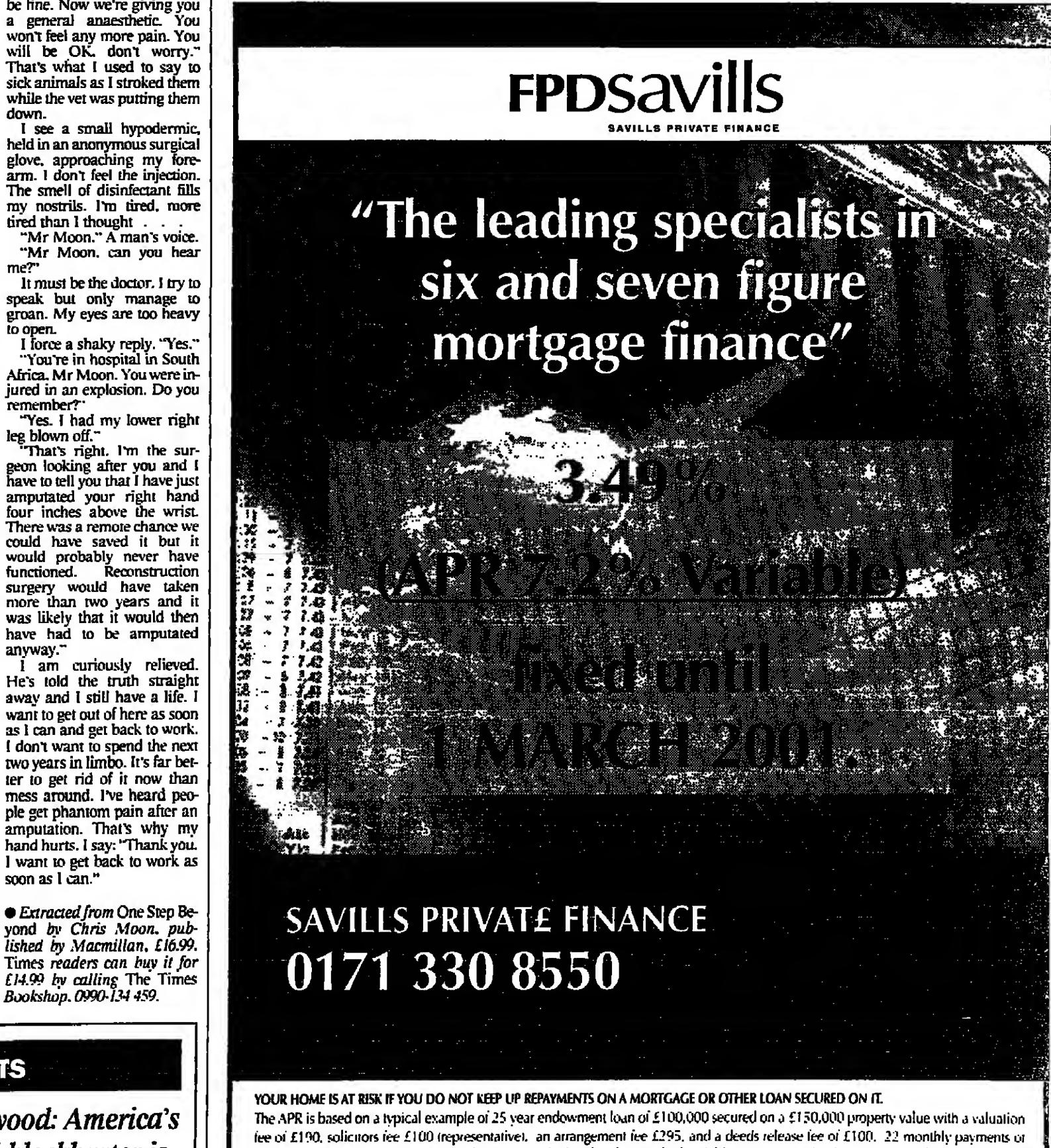
"That's right. I'm the surgeon looking after you and ! have to tell you that I have just amputated your right hand four inches above the wrist. There was a remote chance we could have saved it but it would probably never have functioned. Reconstruction surgery would have taken more than two years and it was likely that it would then

anyway. am curiously relieved. He's told the truth straight away and I still have a life. I want to get out of here as soon as I can and get back to work. I don't want to spend the next two years in limbo. It's far better to get rid of it now than mess around. I've heard people get phantom pain after an amputation. That's why my hand hurts. I say: "Thank you. I want to get back to work as soon as I can."

 Extracted from One Step Beyond by Chris Moon. published by Macmillan, £16.99. Times readers can buy it for £14.99 by calling The Times Bookshop, 0990-134 459.

ARTS

Hot from Hollywood: America's Easter weekend blockbuster is reviewed by Giles Whittell. Arts, Pages 32-34



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Blair's line of least resistance

The punchline is missing in

this improvised Balkan war

tragedy, and now as improvisational comedy. The unfolding humanitarian disaster in Kosovo has, certainly. had the tragic quality of inevitability. It would not have required Themistoclean foresight to recognise that Slobodan Milosevic would respond to bombing with an intensification of his ethnic cleansing. But if the butcher of the Balkans has played true to stereotype there has been no sense that the ditherer of Downing Street has been sticking to any script. It seems uncomfortably as though Tony Blair has been making it up as he goes along.

Improvisation is, of course, an invaluable part of the repertoire of the performer. And in Whose Line Is It Anyway?, Channel Four succeeded in building an appreciative audience for improv. At the ring of Clive Anderson's buzzer, the performers would act out a cocktail party scene as though it had been directed by Ingmar Bergman, then buzze John Ford, and then buzze Quentin Tarantino.

Now, at the drop of a Nato bomb, Tony Blair acts out the part of war leader in the style of Gladstone, then boom Thatcher, and then boom Churchill. Although it seems, at the moment, as though he is closer to being the Churchill of Gallipoli rather than D-Day.

When Nato started its assault on Serbia we were assured that this was a humanitarian effort and Slobo would buckle in days. Subsequently we were told that we were fighting in the national interest to secure regional stabiliry, and we had better prepare for a long haul. After this weekend, we are no long-

er restricting ourselves to an intervention based
on Gladstonian compassion.
let alone a Thatcherite light for
our national interest. "This is
now," Mr Blair informed
readers of The Sun "a battle
between good and evil." Along
the corridors of Downing
Street echo the words of
Churchill. "upon this battle
depends the survival of Christian civilisation".

Yet in this Manichean struggle, between not just a dictatorship and an alliance of democracies, but between "democracy and dictatorship" itself. as the Prime Minister argued in The Sunday Telegraph, our leaders are prepared to sacrifice everything but the good opinion of the focus groups. Mr Blair is fighting his war on two fronts, an air offensive in the Balkans and a holding operation with Middle England. How else to explain the refusal to consider any commitment of ground troops. and the insistence that everything be done to help the refugees except offer them proper refuge?

The polls may suggest that there is support for intervention on the ground. But surveys also show that there is deep wariness at the thought of British soldiers dying to keep Pec ethnically Albanian. Mr Blair seems to regard the headline support for committing ground troops as he did the superficial support in previous electoral campaigns for

tax rises. Once public attitudes are properly explored the idealism evaporates. And not just among the electorate. The improvisational Prime Minister, who has moulded his act to the audience, dares not educate the public in the hard truths of war. Nor does he challenge the limits of our compassion. So, instead of providing a home for huddled masses we have a groan, and muddled thinking.

We are asked to believe that air power alone will cause Milosevic to wobble. We are asked to accept that, in Mr Blair's own words, Nato will "drive . . . the Serbian army from Kosovo" without its forces ever setting foot in the province. And we are invited to collude in the belief that the Kosovans will happily return to their devastated homeland once we have declared it a "safe haven".

This is not so much improvisation, as dangerous invention, no longer comedy but folly to which the hollowest laugh cannot do justice. Short of Hiroshima, and I trust we are a long way short of that, no conflict has been concluded with aerial bombardment. Even then, the Japan which sued for peace had seen its armies crushed on the ground.

No matter how successful this air offensive is, and we must pray for its success, can it really not be augmented by the threat of action on the

ground? Would not
the very act of
building up our
forces in Macedonia act as a more
powerful signal of
our seriousness
than the bombardment of Fleet Street
with signed philippics from No 10?

And would we not be better able to persuade Kosovans to return to their homeland if we were prepared assion. troops to secure its integrity? Ight for Ask the Kurds how effective

troops to secure its integrity?
Ask the Kurds how effective are their safe havens secured from the air and the graves give their own mute answer.
But the commitment of ground troops, what one might call, without apology to Margaret Thatcher, the reso-

lute approach, requires something new from our current leaders. It is something they seem incapable of giving - a lead. We have a Prime Minister who can feel our pain, but not steel us to endure it. Having abandoned the rhetoric of sacrifice somewhere on the road from John Smith's grave, Mr Blair has to improvise a new style of political leadership. Our strung-out Premier will not cease from mental fight, but he lets the sword sleep in his hand.

Without a willingness to drive the Serbian army out at gunpoint we face, at best, the prospect not of a liberated Kosovo, but a partitioned one. If, after he has finished his ethnic cleansing, Milosevic chooses, himself, to improvise and offer us a new peace deal with a carved-up Kosovo. what evidence is there that Nato will stand firm? And when the world looks at this new division, and asks whose line is it anyway, what will our ever-inventive Prime Minister say then?

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Speech impediments

hey think they have dug up the Tower of Babel. What could be more spookily appropriate to this Easter? The word is that Michael Saunders, a classicist, concludes from new Nasa photographs and reinterpreted biblical texts that the legendary tower was not in Mesopotamia as previously assumed, but by the Black Sea

If so, I hope it becomes a place of penitential pilgrimage, because nothing could be more apt as we squabble into a new century. In my school the Babel story was not much dwelt upon in RE — possibly because the Modern Languages department did not want us noticing that its moral seems to be that foreign languages are a punishment sent by God. So I looked it up over Easter.

It is one of those capricious, unpalatable incidents in Genesis which brings to mind the story told in the trade about a biographer of Evelyn Waugh. Fresh from that task, the hardy writer was commissioned to work on a children's Bible: it is reported that at one point she muttered: "I thought there was nobody worse than Waugh, but the God of the Old Testament runs him pretty close." Certainly His punishments often took the form of curmudgeonly frustration of human initiative.

The story tells of the days when "The whole earth was of one language and one speech". Wanderers arriving at the plain of Shinar decided to build a tower whose top might reach to Heaven. God, disliking this arrogance, came down to "confound their language. that they may not understand one another's speech". So the confused new tribes scattered, each talking their own language and regarding the utterances of everyone else as so much gibberish. Think of it: proto-Serbian, early Croat, seeds of Albanian, Gujerati, Hindi, Russian. Hutu, Tutsi, English, Welsh scattering across the world, to grow into cultures and loyalties which would set the sons and daughters of Adam at one another's throats for ten thousand years. The correct theological response is that mankind deserved it; nonetheless the

kind deserved it; nonetheless the words "dirty trick" spring to mind.

Like all the best myths. Babel dramatises an unappealing aspect of ourselves, and expresses the eternal bafflement at the failure of the human race to behave with sense or even real self-interest. The early chapters of Genesis emphasise unity: the careful and much-paro-

died lineage tracing every tribe back

The ancient myth of Babel lives on

in the killing fields of Kosovo

to Adam. The moment of Babel — told with tantalising brevity — turns a close society with a well-organised building project into a disorganised, squabbling rabble who give up the job and scatter to different territories because they literally can't get any sense out of one another. The myth answers the question "Why are we like this?" with the usual answer: that we separated ourselves from the will of God.

But you do not need to believe in God to feel the frustration: why are we like this? For centuries humane philosophers have bewailed our

capacity for wasting effort on conflict when a fragment of the cost prosperous co-operation. Very few wars are actually fought for survival, and united societies have flourished under extreme privation. War sets progress back: in the Yugoslav context this is illustrated by a history of

the Yugoslav context this is illustrated by a history of the Yugo car, a Tito export whose parts came from every corner of the federation, with Serb steel rolling on Bosnian wheels with Croatian brake-lin-

Croatian brake-linings and Montenegran seats, or whatever. OK, they were awful cars, but it was a start. Now the industry and the profits are gone.

Looking at the present set of international crises it is unbearably frustrating to contemplate just how much could have been done for the countries bordering Serbia with the money currently exploding over Belgrade at five million dollars a bang; or to consider what the Balkan groups themselves could have achieved in peace. Meanwhile, better not even to think how many wells could be dug and farms founded by the muscle currently wasted by the roaming killers of the Interahamwe in central Africa, or how much more desert might have flowered if Arabs and Israelis lived in trust, or what Northern Ireland could become if its people would

These are hopelessly naive reflections. We all know the answer: people aren't like that. People side with their own, and define their own in rigid ways. The Russians side with the Serbs because they are "theirs". The Serbs think everyone is against them, and considering what happened to them in Croatia. they are not entirely deluded. Even our own, supposedly race-blind Nato politics are visibly tainted with the desire to back people who look like us. We are more active over human rights in Kosovo than in Algeria, or China, or Burma; the

> justification of physical proximity does not stand up. If it were possible to do a controlled experiment I suspect that the Anglo-Saxon and Northern European leaders — and electors would always find excuses to help white victims before black, and that the white among victims they would prefer those who use the Roman alphabet to those who write Cyrillic or Arabic script. Remem-

use the Roman alphabet to those who write Cyrillic or Arabic script. Remember the run-up to the Falklands war, and that flood of emotive journalism about thos of the islands, and of having foreign orders

the British ethos of the islands, and the outrage of having foreign orders barked there?

These instincts will always be with us, underlying everything that we do. The honest thing is to confront them frankly, and recognise unhelpful impulses. This ap-

we do. The honest thing is to confront them frankly, and recognise unhelpful impulses. This applies as much to racism as to other conflicts. The other day a newspaper reported that a group of scientists interpret hostility to racially-mixed marriages in terms of Stone Age survival mechanisms. At a primitive level, it was biologically inadvisable to have a white skin in hot southern climates, because you need melanin for protection, and equally dangerous to be black in the grey north because white skins capture more vitamins from sunlight. Hence, a biological instinct not to mate, for fear of producing young with less capacity to survive.

In the age of sunscreen creams and an indoor life any such instinct is as redundant as the flight-or-fight mechanism is to a railway commuter. But as I discussed the report with a pale-skinned friend who has been happily married to a Nigerian doctor for 20 years, she immediately said: "Oh. yes. An anthropologist told me about that when we got engaged. The biological interdict." Had it worried her? "No. the opposite. It swept away the last doubts. I had been wondering about a few uneasy feelings I had, but once I identified them as Stone Age remnants, I could tidy them

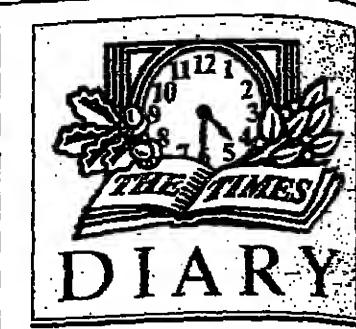
dentify, admit, confess the sin of Babel, and it fades. The new millennium is not without hope. The creative vigour of melting-pot communities has been proven over and over again in this century, from New York to Cardiff Bay. Air travel confronts ordinary people with the humanity of foreigners, and the e-mail generation holds conversations across the most unpromising borders. My most interesting letters of the past week have been from families who, ever since some bygone Yugotours holiday. have kept in touch with Serb or Kosovan friends. Unless bigots take charge, communities rub along fine even in poor regions.

Tony Allen-Mills, of The Sunday Times, reminded us this weekend of the life and death of Bogoljug Staletovic, a notably even-handed and sociable Serbian police commander in a southern Kosovo town. As the situation grew tenser. Staletovic tried, said a witness, "to persuade his friends in both groups not to get angry with each other. Nobody wanted trouble. This part of Kosovo always had a peaceful life". It was the Kosovo Liberation Army who ambushed and killed Staletovic. He was only 31; seven thousand mourners followed him. including Albanians. But from that time onward, fear in the town

increased.

That Staletovic is dead is part of the disaster. But that he lived, and is mourned, is part of the hope. There will always be individuals who recognise that law of Babel is an evil nonsense and refuse to submit to it. But if we are to join them we have to suppress the Babel instinct in ourselves: starting with the admission that even in a mess like this, there are no demons but only potential friends.

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Lost at sea?

THE alleged disappearance of the ringleaders of a mutiny aboard a destroyer captained by Lord Mountbatten during the Second World War is to be investigated by the Ministry of Defence. It is to launch the inquiry because veterans are demanding to know about the crewmen's fate.

In 1941, HMS Jackal was requested to help in the defence of Plymouth by employing its anti-aircraft guns against incoming German planes. As the ship fired off every shell and bullet on board, its crewmen, many of whom were from Plymouth, watched the city's destruction.

Once the action was over, the seamen asked to go ashore to see how their families had fared. Mountbatten (below), however, turned down their request and ordered the ship out to sea.

In protest, the ratings slammed the watertight doors and effectively went on strike. Mountbatten relented later that day, but when the ship arrived in Gibraltar a few weeks later, the ringleaders were flown home by the military and never seen again by their ship mates.



A SERBLAN protester in Parliament Square with a placard urged Robin Cook over the weekend to "make love not war".

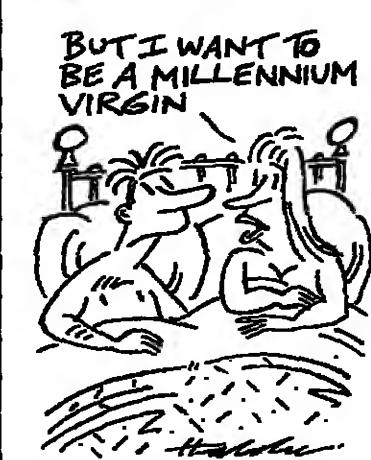
against institutional racism does not extend to Labour itself. Just as the Macpherson report into the Stephen Lawrence murder showed that the Race Relations Act did not apply to the police, so two industrial tribunals against the party have highlighted that it also is excluded from the legislation.

Raghib Ahsan, a former Birmingham councillor, has followed Neelam Bakshi, a counterpart in Scotland, in alleging that the party has acted in a racially discriminatory fashion towards them. They are both backed by the Commission for Racial Equality.

Ken Livingstone says Labour is actively fighting the cases by exploiting its exemption from the Act. "Why is the Labour leader-ship," he asks. "refusing to accept that the Act should apply to the Labour Party itself?"

BELGIUM this month joined Egypt and Jamaica as countries where the Foreign Office advises British tourists to take care.

LIKE a Victorian covering up the legs of a piano, one of Britain's latest Oscar winners has concealed the nudity of his award. Stephen Warbeck, who received the prized statue in Hollywood for composing the music for Shakespeare in Love, has been clothing the trophy in Barbie doll clothes borrowed from his children. "I looked at the Oscar and thought, I don't like the look of this thing much," he says. "He's been wearing a purple dress for some of his time in Britain."



MADELEINE ALBRIGHT'S latest strategy for winning the war in the Balkans: a new hairdo. In very public view, the Secretary of State yesterday sat under the dryer at Hair Design in Georgetown, surrounded by a posse of Secret Service agents.

MINIMALISM has failed to add value to Peter Mandelson's home. The estate agency board has been standing outside the former Trade Secretary's house in North-umberland Place for two and a half months. A similar but more homely property down the road and on the market for an equivalent period has just been snapped up.

DURING its latest stock-taking.
the London Dungeon has
discovered that it is missing a
replica skull. chastity belt and
severed head of King Charles I.

EDWARD WELSH

'It may seem inclusive, but the next royal wedding risks disastrous public relations, by mixing the public uncomfortably with the relations'

ove may grow from intimacy, but it is in the nature of wedding vows that they must be before an audience. As Dr Johnson observed of executions, there's no point if they're not public. But even for the least private of this year's weddings, the marriage of Prince Edward and Sophie Rhys-Jones, there can be such a thing as too public an avowal.

an avowal.

Those planning this royal wedding in the expectation that it will, unlike others, actually have a fairytale ending would do better to go back to the traditional stories than substitute them with publicity techniques learnt from Hello! Prince Charming naturally invited everyone in all the land to cheer the good match he made in Cinderella, but he invented strict quantity controls to keep the actual ceremony to his bride and close family. Instead, Prince Edward and

Sophie Rhys-Jones have invited 500 of their closest friends, and then decided to let the public scramble in an unseemly draw for the final 2,000 places inside Windsor Castle.

It may seem inclusive, but the next royal wedding risks disastrous public relations, by mixing the public uncomfortably with the relations. And even before the relations object, the public will. The national tradition, duty even. of using queues as a means of fairly distributing anything from stamps to a glance at celebrity has been wiped out with one stroke of Sophie's wand. Gone is the loyal fan, a man in a Union Jack hat, with warm sandwiches and cold sleepingbag. In his place appears a new and increasingly common kind of guest, with the glazed and acquisitive face of someone entered in a prize draw. They will

be familiar figures to one of the

Helen Rumbelow

couple's first invitees, Chris Tarrant from Who Wants To Be A Millionaire? It is a decision revealing of a modern Britain, in which lottery culture has overtaken fairness and romance. Like the lottery, those who win a place at the wedding can expect the envy of those they leave behind and the condescension of the old money with whom they aspire to rub shoulders

For those guests who are there by the lottery of noble birth can hardly be expected to savour sharing their celebration with those who won a lucky ticket. Hanging themselves on bunting would appear more attractive than sitting in an enclosure with 2,000 subscribers to Majesty magazine sweating patriotically into their flasks of hot tea.

The future Princess delayed

and delayed her engagement. And in this confused People's Wedding we can, perhaps, see why. It was not because of any wavering doubts about the manly Prince Edward and his passion for real tennis, but because she did not know in which of her rivals' footsteps to follow.

Princess, Diana's spectacularly camp taffeta-fest. Pearly queens and gay men led the throngs adoring her from London streets, but respected that the marriage was a private affair only to be viewed on teatowels and ceremonial thimbles after the event. Then came the Paparazzi Princess, the stately Spice Girl Mel B. She commanded not only that all her guests

wear white, but at least £350,000

for the exclusive photographs. And in reaction to the above came the Publican's Princess, an adorably down-home affair from Kate Winslet, the actress who tipped off only a few photographers to come to her local and waich her splatter cheap beet down her ridiculously expensive couture gown. The public relations girl watched these successes and wished to herself that she could have all three. How quickly she had forgotten the lesson she had learnt from her engagement with Edward: be careful

what you wish for.

What results is a mixture of all these modern myths. She attempts to put a bouncer on the portcullis of the castle: rejecting most but allowing a few in from the crowd. But you cannot have your wedding cake and eat it. Issuing some golden tickets to the public and leaving the rest clamouring at the gate will cause more

anger than if no public tickets had been issued at all. Although Ms Rhys-Jones is a publicity maven she has yet to realise the fastest way to turn the public away from the royals is to allow them to feel they have a right to get close, and then snatch the dream from all but a random few.

The magic secret of enduring as a modern royal must be to

The magic secret of enduring as a modern royal must be to remain exclusive. No "People's Weddings", no inner pens for the lucky few, no prize draws, no one to breathe down the back of a betrothed's neck as vows are said, no blurring of fans and friends. Then they will fulfil the fairytale monarchy of real populies departs.

Once the thin end of this wedge prises open the chapel door, then what next? The birth of the first fruit of their union screened on Live and Kicking?

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المكان الاصل



A MORAL DUTY

Nato must quicken the pace of war and aid to war's victims

Whatever the spats between Clare Short and Jack Straw over the Kosovan refugees or growing divisions within Nato over America's proposed airlift, the immediate task is to protect and feed the refugees camped in misery along the Kosovan border. Nato estimates that the number of displaced Kosovans is now approaching a million; some 44,000 left yesterday alone, and a further 300,000 are expected to struggle into Albania, Macedonia and Montenegro within the next few days. Ethnic cleansing continues apace: at this rate, Kosovo will be emptied of all Albanians within about two weeks — the swiftest and most brutal displacement in Europe since the Second World War.

In their squalid camps, they are at least safe from assault and the systematic killing of young men by the para-military Serb gangs now torching their villages. But their lives are still at risk. Hunger, exhaustion and disease are taking their toll. They camp in the open, in fields churned to mud and covered with faeces. There is no water. warmth or food. The elderly are bewildered, the children terrified, the sick unable to get attention. Dysentry and cholera attack as relentlessly as Serb guns. As the numbers grow, so do fears and resentment in the precarious countries to which the Kosovans are fleeing. All three are among the most vulnerable in Europe,

desperately poor, beset by their own ethnic and tribal conflicts and with shaky governments easily overthrown by populists exploiting the present crisis. Macedonia is threatening to close its borders altogether if the Kosovans are not quickly dispersed. President Djukanovic of Montenegro, courageously defying the hardliners in Belgrade, is still offering sanctuary to the refugees but fears that President

Milosevic is plotting a coup to replace him

with a placeman of his own. Albania can no longer cope with the numbers, and Nato is having to send in some 6,000 troops to take over policing and food distribution.

Nato insists that as the weather clears, and the destruction of Yugoslav bridges and fuel and ammunition dumps bites, the Serb terror in Kosovo will be slowed and eventually halted. For many, it will be too late. Tony Blair was right to insist that the attacks must be stepped up. British Tornados based in Germany took part in the air raids for the first time at the weekend; two battalions of American Apache helicopters, designed to attack ground forces, will soon arrive in Tirana. The Nato aim remains consistent: to force the Serb troops out of Kosovo, allow the refugees to return and police their safety with a Nato peacekeeping force.

That aim, however, is still far from being achieved. It will take a lot more firepower, more flexible tactics and more time to break Serbian intransigence. And neither the refugees nor the host countries have time. Even after a ceasefire, few will return unless a sizeable military force clears the way and escorts them home.

The Americans have proposed a massive airlift to relieve the refugee plight. Most of Europe is ready to take in thousands, but Britain and France are reluctant, insisting that moving out the Albanians would be to connive in ethnic cleansing. The political objections are valid, but the humanitarian need is overwhelming. Safe havens would be a better option, but not one that is speedily available. Accommodating the sick, the children and the elderly is a moral as well as political imperative. Tomorrow and later this week Britain will meet its European Union, Contact Group and G8 partners. It should set an example of compassion as well as military resolution.

MR ZHU GOES TO WASHINGTON

Hard choices that Beijing cannot postpone

Dark economic clouds are gathering over China. Recent weeks have brought unwelcome news for China's foremost moderniser, Zhu Rongji, who this week makes his first visit to the United States as Prime Minister. Having dodged Asia's financial storms for two years. China seems targeted for a downpour. And whether it is headed for deep trouble, or just a muddy fork in the capitalist road, one thing seems clear: state-directed "socialism with Chinese characteristics" is close to its limits. Hard decisions cannot be ducked much longer.

Chinese claims of 7.8 per cent GDP growth last year are exaggerated. Foreign direct investment fell 9.5 per cent in January and February, the worst dip since Deng Xiaoping's reforms began in 1978. China's banks are deeply insolvent. Asia's crisis has hit exports hard. Even the party's insistence that the currency will not be devalued is softening. Although the yuan is sheltered by great walls of control, economists with the ear of Mr Zhu now suggest that devaluation is no longer unthinkable, even if it may not come soon.

For two decades, China's reforms have delivered new wealth and social peace. As growth lags, that peace becomes more fragile: hinterlands brood in rural backwardness, coastal cities fret over the millions of potentially idle migrants in their midsts. Although growth, not Marx, is China's cure-all, grave defects exist; most predate Asia's crisis: and vital structural reforms have yet to be addressed.

Half measures, cover-up, and muddle are all too much the norm. Shrewd and worldly, Mr Zhu grasps the need for bank reform and the closure of unviable state-owned enterprises (SOEs). President Jiang and party elders tremble at the political risks. As the tenth anniversary of Tiananmen comes near, real reform seems riskier than doing nothing.

The result is a policy at loggerheads with itself. A 270 billion yuan (more than £20 billion) recapitalisation of China's banks is in play. But even this large sum is not enough to do the job. Bank liabilities now equal 140 per cent of GDP, and are growing at 30 per cent a year. Estimates of non-performing bank loans range from 24 per cent to 40 per cent. A fifth of China's GDP will be needed to clean up this mess. The political cost of depriving party bosses of the power to direct credit could be even

For fear of increasing unemployment, hundreds of state-owned commanies, the source of most bad loans, remain untouched. Thousands of new plants have bloomed, many of them merely adding to excess capacity which, in video recorders, to take one example, stands at 74 per cent.

Reform is still alive. The People's Bank of China is supposedly insulated from party interference. The People's Liberation Army has surrendered most of its factories. Smaller firms have been given their head; many are sacking workers. But all reformers recognise the serious problems ahead. Freedoms given with one hand can be taken back with the other. Because Mr Zhu is anxious to speed up growth, banks are told to pay new credits to state firms, making bad worse. State spending will increase by 20 per cent this year. China can afford this, as its national debt is virtually nil, but it is no way to build sustainable

growth and Mr Zhu knows it. These shocks push China's leaders toward fresh reforms, but the consequences scare them. In hushed tones, formerly taboo words such as privatisation and tariff reform are muttered in Beijing. But such necessary ideas are politically sensitive and hard to push forward when civil unrest and loss of central control are always the bogeys to be feared.

MINE OF INFORMATION

The relics of Britain's industrial past must be preserved

The structures which link the present to the past are often delicate. With the death of each human generation, a small bridging strut breaks. With the fading of each memory, the more it matters that physical reminders remain. That is why proposals that a South Wales ironworks and mining area be preserved as a World Heritage Site should be welcomed. Only through visiting places such as this can Britain's young come to understand the industrial founda-

tions on which their future is laid. Britain was at the heart of the Industrial Revolution and the sweeping technological changes that its innovations wrought. A limited agrarian society harnessed the power of manufacturing capacities and grew into a profitable force. Writers such as William Cobbett celebrated the ingenuity of a new generation when he wrote in his Letter to the Luddites of Nottingham that "machines are the produce of the mind of man; their existence distinguishes the civilised man from the savage." But later authors came to discover the grimmer outcomes of industrial growth: poverty. pollution and depression. D.H. Lawrence, Charles Dickens and Elizabeth Gaskell dealt with the human face of a new type of

suffering spawned in factories and pits. These are images that pervade the modern mind. One sided accounts stalk the memory like Lowry's matchstick men. Yet

the full portrait of the industrial worker combines a complex blend of dreams and despair. The industrial era was a confusing synthesis of voluntary escape from rural poverty, disciplined compliance to a new drudgery and a changed sense of the human dignity of labour.

The four massive hillside furnaces and the once famous Big Pit of the Blaenavon site in South Wales should be preserved so that future generations might understand some of these paradoxes. Though many have grandparents (and parents) still alive today who mastered the skills of the miner or iron worker, to many others these skills can seem as remote as the Stone Age arrow maker's craft. Memories should not be taken for granted. History soon consumes

its inheritance if it is not put in trust. Several other British areas are also being considered as World Heritage Sites - the New Forest for instance. Shakespeare's Stratford. All have their merits. All preserve some unspoiled portion of a landscape or culture. But the Blaenavon site with its outmoded machinery and its stretch of canal, its relics of a horse drawn railway and battered warehouses, preserve a distinctively human phase of Britain's history. This Monmouthshire site speaks as much of the people who once lived there as it does of the place itself and should be treasured all the more highly for that.



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London El 9XN Telephone 0171-782 5000

Escalation of the conflict in Kosovo

From Sir Alfred Sherman

Sir. I note with concern the assertions that Nato credibility is now at stake, thereby justifying a further escalation of violence against Serbia, not excluding a ground assault and other destructive measures.

If Nato's credibility can survive only by being watered with Serbian blood, is it worth preserving, or indeed preservable? Can it not already have been irreparably destroyed by the decision — taken virtually unilaterally by the US - to transform it from a uniquely successful defensive pact whose objectives had already been achieved to an instrument for politicomilitary policy?

If Nato cannot be phased out as honourably redundant before its American caretakers employ it in fresh adventures unrelated to its original defensive purposes, should not Britain, one of the original founders, resign and return to bilateral policymaking? Otherwise, not only Nato's credibility will be in question, but Britain's.

Yours sincerely, **ALFRED SHERMAN** (Chairman, Lord Byron Foundation for Balkan Studies), 14 Malvern Court, Onslow Square, SW7 3HU. shermania@compuserve.com April 3.

From Mr D. M. G. Bird

Sir. Few, hopefully, in this country would cavil with the need to adopt the strongest possible measures to overcome the appalling evil perpetrated by Milosevic.

At the same time, the public would be justified in imagining that our leaders would take into account the lessons of history and benefit from expert military, diplomatic and political advice. Sadly, they seem to have ignored both, for their actions have resulted in what appears to be a horrifying fiasco, with the prospect of escalating misery, financial cost and loss of life while we attempt to extricate ourselves. The mounting criticism that they did not think their actions through seems to be completely justified.

One can only pray that these military experts have in fact a master plan to put in ground forces, and that our political leaders have the stomach to tell the public that this is the only solution to relieving the misery of the Kosovo Albanians, and possibly hastening the end to this tragic fiasco.

Yours faithfully. DAVID BIRD. The Malt House, Hinton, Berkeley, Gloucestershire GL13 9HZ.

From Mr Daniel Bradley

Sir, The Reverend Humphrey Southern (letter, April 1) contrasts, unfairly in my view, the consideration we showed to Iraq by refraining from attacking during Ramadan with our readiness to bomb Serbian military targets during Holy Week.

Nato's urgent and overriding need is to prevent further murder and dispossession of Albanian Kosovans. One minute utilised to save human life is surely an act of Christian charity.

Yours faithfully, DAN BRADLEY, 54 Torkington Street, Stockport SK3 9JS.

From the Director of the United Nations Information Centre

Sir, It is not true that the UN secretariat has made no comment on the situation in Kosovo (letter, April 1). The Secretary General Kofi Annan himself has made several statements. On March 24 he said "the moment was a grave one for the international community" and deeply regretted the Yugoslav authorities' rejection of a political settlement.

On March 30 be expressed "profound outrage" at "reports of a vicious and systematic campaign of 'ethnic cleansing conducted by Serbian military and paramilitary forces in ...

Kosovo". He pointed out that the UN, with UNHCR in the lead, was doing everything possible to alleviate the suffering of Kosovan refugees. The UN is also monitoring the political and military situation and is in close contact with Nato.

Sincerely. AHMAD FAWZI, Director. United Nations Information Centre. Millbank Tower (21st Floor). 21-24 Millbank, SWIP 4QH. April 1.

From Dr Clive Layton

Sir. You published today (April 2) a letter about the Kosovo problem from James Tulloch (aged 13) which is a model of clarity. My appreciation of the serious point made was clouded by the need you felt to give the writer's

Are we intended to take the letter less seriously because he is aged 13? Or are we meant to be awestruck by the intellect of one so young? The inclusion of the writer's age is a distraction and represents an example of ageism that should not be acceptable.

Yours faithfully, CLIVE LAYTON (aged 54). Woodview. Abbess Roding. Ongar, Essex CM5 0JJ. layton@softlay-software.demon.co.uk April 2

Second chamber's democratic role

unique. Its membership is drawn

from every profession and field of hu-

man endeavour. Many have achieved

distinction in their chosen occupation.

The crossbenchers bring their own

independent contribution and the

hereditary peers their own style and

approach: many are from families

that have served the State for genera-

tions, even centuries. There is a de-

gree of freedom from party restraint

that is refreshing and, on occasions,

There is no way such a forum could

be brought about by a general elec-

tion. And yet, for the sake of some

theory of democracy, or from envy or

from outdated class prejudice, we are

about to destroy this chamber of all

extremely valuable.

We must be mad!

LEONARD ALLEN,

Highfield, Marlow,

Buckinghamshire SL7 2LF.

From Mr William Hutton

Sir, I wonder what percentage of the

electorate would be prepared to vote

for noble members of a second cham-

ber who might be too clearly seen as

there to second-guess those who are

elected as members of the Commons.

future of the Lords would be well

advised to take soundings on the

likely complicity of the electorate in

their proposed findings? I suspect,

particularly in the light of the emer-

ging parliaments and assemblies in

the United Kingdom, that there could

be widespread apathy in voting in-

tentions for a House of Lords. Indeed,

there could be so little interest that the

result of change might bring our

hard-won democratic processes into

8 Sutherland Avenue, Petts Wood.

Pc. haps the commission on the

the talents.

April 4

Yours faithfully,

8 Carmel Court,

Some are of international repute.

From Lord Skidelsky

Sir, The Conservative MP Andrew Tyrie believes that "in the 21st century only a chamber backed by the legitimacy of the ballot box can hope to command the public consent required to fulfil a constitutional role" (article, March 26: leading article, April 1). The choice, he wrote is between "bicameral democracy and the de facto uni-cameralism that the Lords Bill will probably bequeath us". "Bicameral democracy" is needed to counter the domination of Parliament by the Executive.

This familiar argument ignores the way the British constitution works. Governments rely on a disciplined party majority to get their business through the House of Commons. The weak legitimacy of the House of Lords ensures that they get their legislation through the Lords as well — albeit improved and amended - without the necessity of a whipped majority

If the second chamber acquires the "legitimacy of the ballot box" governments will need to ensure majorities there to get their business through Parliament. How would this weaken the power of the Executive? The flaw in Tyrie's argument is that it is precisely the weak legitimacy of the Lords which makes our constitution work. I have never heard a convincing answer to this objection.

We can all think of electoral arrangements (eg. staggered voting) which will get us out of this bind. But in so far as the object of all such devices is to make it more difficult for the government to get its business through Parliament, they will be resisted by any government of any party: which is why they will remain conversation pieces.

Yours sincerely, ROBERT SKIDELSKY, House of Lords. April I.

From Mr Leonard Allen Sir, Our second parliamentary chamber (letters, March 30 and 31) is

National Trust praised

Sir, There has been criticism of the

National Trust and its respect for

donors' wishes following its decision

not to renew its licences for stag-

hunting in the West Country (report,

October 2, 1998; letters, November 12,

However, my experience since 1963,

when I took over the lease of my

family home, West Wycombe Park,

which my father gave to the trust in

1944, confirms that it does its utmost

During the 36 years I have spent

restoring the interior of the house and

the landscape garden to its 18th-

century state the National Trust has

encouraged me. Now I am about to

move out to make way for my son and

I am confident that the trust will

continue to abide by my father's

wishes as it has assured me, and will

treat my son in the same courteous

and constructive manner as it has

serve our heritage with the help of its

army of enthusiastic volunteers and

dedicated management and staff

deserves praise and encouragement.

The trust's determination to con-

From Sir Francis Dashwood

17, 30 and January 7).

to abide by donors' wishes.

his family.

treated me.

Yours faithfully,

West Wycombe,

FRANCIS DASHWOOD.

West Wycombe Park Office,

Buckinghamshire HPI4 3AJ.

Running the BBC

Orpington, Kent BR5 1QZ.

From Mr David Sullivan Proudfoot

WILLIAM HUTTON,

disrepute.

Yours truly,

Sir. It will be disastrous for the country, both at home and internationally, if all concerned with the appointment of the BBC's next Director-General share the apathy shown by Antoine Palmer (article, March

The managerial destruction of the BBC can be reversed, and one must pray that the right candidate makes themself available.

I was the BBC's Head of Television Training during 1978-80, after 26 years' work at every level of television drama programme-making. The advertisement for my replacement stated: "Production experience not essential." My job was among the first of many where programme zeal was replaced by administrative aspiration.

Remember the golden triumvirate of Sirs Hugh Carlton-Greene, Huw Wheldon and David Attenborough all practised broadcasters — and the marvellous programmes they encouraged.

Government and governors take note. Young turks, please step for-

Yours etc. DAVID SULLIVAN PROUDFOOT, Crossbones Cottage. Grove, Portland, Dorset DT5 IDA. starland@surfaid.org March 30.

woman took bronze and sixth place"

en athletes, reinforce the attitude that

women cannot compete with men,

and lead to the one woman who did

win being held up as masculine (as in

I am not arguing for total segrega-

tion, especially in sports like eques-

trianism or racing where there is no

physical need, or at the friendly level

But at the highest level, why not

keep it separate, and give young girls

somewhere they can aim for the very

top — not for a place behind yet

where each may do as they please.

many non-sporting male fields).

This would simply demoralise wom-

Woman in sport

From Miss Laura Stobart

Sir, As a keen (but not necessarily talented) university and friendly-level sportswoman with a passion for football, I have often come up against unhelpful male - and female - attitudes to women's sport (report and Alyson Rudd's article, March 31). I was particularly disappointed in Ms Rudd's call for mixed competition.

Why should women have to compete with men in every arena? Surely it is more exciting watching Venus and Serena Williams slug it out on the tennis court at something like an even level than it would be watching every Sampras serve go past Hingis? And yes, it would matter if "49 times out of 50 a man took gold and silver and a

(March 26) as objecting to Ethan

Hawke's rendition of Hamlet's fa-

mous soliloquy at a variety per-

formance at the Globe by saying,

among other things: "The part about

how he might his own quietus make

with a bare bodkin — that was gone."

gone. The problem was precisely his

insertion of the nonexistent "own".

To be fair to Mr Hawke, it was not

But every actor fluffs his lines

sometimes, and I am pretty sure that

Shakespeare's own company took far

greater liberties than this.

5 Upper St Martin's Lane,

Yours faithfully,

VIKRAM SETH.

c/o Orion Books.

March 26.

London WC2H 9EA.

31a Rush Hill Road, SW11 5NW. March 31.

Shakespeare liberties Coming and going From Mr Vikram Seth

From Dr Patrick Harris Sir, I am misquoted in your Diary

another man.

LAURA STOBART,

Yours etc.

Sir, Recently I find that the news programmes spend most of the time forecasting future events while the weather reports spend their time telling me about the weather I have just had.

PATRICK HARRIS, 12 Linnet Close, Cannock, Staffordshire WS12 4TP.

patrick@ patrickharris.freeserve.co.uk March 31.

Letters to the Editor for publication should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be sent to a fax number - 0171-782 5046 - or by e-mail to: letters@the-times.co.uk

Justice of equal age of consent

From the Chair of Christians for Human Rights and others

Sir, The House of Commons has decisively and consistently voted for equality and protection of the vulnerable in the third reading of the

Sexual Offences (Amendment) Bill. The House of Lords must now decide whether it wishes to promote the health and safety of young gay men through equalising the age of consent or continue their criminalisation.

As people of faith committed to social justice, we seek to refocus at tention upon the fundamental principles of the Bill. The proposed legislation is not concerned with legalising or promoting particular forms of sexual behaviour but with equalisation under the law and the appropriate protection of those vulnerable to abuse.

Contrary to some of the comments made by the Bill's opponents, nothing in the social justice teachings of our faith traditions can be used to argue against such legislation. The Sexual Offences Bill builds upon a key principle within our faith traditions: that the human person is created with a unique dignity, worthy of respect and equality before the law.

Even if some religious teachings promote the view that homosexual activity, as a matter of choice, is unethical. justice demands the defence of lesbian and gay people's human rights. It is inappropriate to adjudicate on such civil liberties issues solely using personal sexual ethics principles. Opposing the morality of certain sexual practices — the subject of wide debate across a range of theological traditions - ought not to entail collusion with campaigns to maintain discrimination.

Perpetuating inequality in the age of consent places intolerable strains upon families and parents seeking to support their gay and lesbian children. The experience of many parents' support organisations in this field confirms that removal of current inequalities and consequent stress, far from undermining family structures, will actually strengthen them.

Yours faithfully, MARTIN PENDERGAST, Chair, Christians for Human Rights, MICHAEL BOURKE, Bishop of Wolverhampton, GRAHAM DALE Director, Christian Socialist Movement SUSAN HALEY, Called To Be One: Catholic Parents' Network, RICHARD HOLLOWAY, Bishop of Edinburgh, JULIA NEUBERGER, Chief Executive, The King's Fund. Christians for Human Rights, PO Box 24632. London E9 6XF. April 4.

Wedding gaffe

From Mr G. F. deC. Sizer

Sir, I read Mr W. H. Henderson's letter (March 31) with such relief -- it absolved me, after nearly 60 years, of an awful morai burden.

My wife and I were married in 1939 and I was responsible, in the vestry, for entering on the marriage certificate, under "occupation of father". the description "Assistant Director of Education" — which I thought to be true. Some years afterwards I realised that, although my father had had the closest association with his director. he had in fact been chief clerk to the education committee. Oh. the embarrassment when I realised what I had

Now, bless him, Mr Henderson suggests that the President of the European Commission be reclassified as "Director-General, or even Chief Clerk". I approach our diamond wedding with a much lighter heart.

Yours sincerely, GEOFF SIZER, 64 Saint Mary's Road, Benfleet, Essex SS7 1NN. April 1.

Harder and harder

From Mr William T. Potter Sir, Is it a sign of diminishing intel-

lectual powers with advancing years. or am I right in perceiving a marked increase in the difficulty of the clues in The Times Two Crossword?

Some of them seem to me to equal. or even surpass, those in the Saturday Crossword.

Yours in puzzlement, WILLIAM T. POTTER, 6 Higher Down. Kenton, Exeter, Devon EX6 8NG. April 5.

Clarification sought

From Mr Anthony P. Moran

Sir, Driving past the main gate of a military establishment recently, noticed a guard who appeared to be wearing a you-can't-see-me camouflage uniform superimposed upon which was a you-can't-miss-me fluorescent yellow waistcoat.

I wonder if there is an appropriate word or expression for this odd conflict of purpose?

Yours faithfully, ANTHONY P. MORAN. 37 Monckton Road, Gosport, Hampshire PO12 2BG.

SOCIAL NEWS

Today's royal engagements

The Duke of Edinburgh, trustee. will chair a meeting of The Prince Philip Trust Fund for the Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead, at Windsor Castle, at 6.15. The Prince of Wales will visit Cantraybridge Rural Skills College, Cawdor, Nairn: will visit Hunters of Brora, Sutherland: will visit the Renal and Oncology Departments at Raigmore Hospital, inverness, and as patron. Macmillan Cancer Relief, will unveil a bench outside the hospital.

University news

London Royal Holloway College

Appointments Dr Cynthia Ebinger, BS(Duke). SM MIT, PhD (MIT/Woods Hole), reader, geology, from January 25, 1999. Dr Andy Field, BSc (City). DPhil (Sussex), lecturer, psychology from

September I, 1998 Dr Peter French, BSc (Kingston). PhD (Reading), lecturer, geography. from September 1, 1998. Anna Fukshansky. Dr. rer. nat. (Freiburg), lecturer, computer science, from September 1, 1998. Dr Jocelyn Gamble, BA (Oxford Brookes), MA. PhD (London), lecturer, management, from September 1, 1998. Mr Simon Holt, FRNCM, lecturer,

composer in residence, music, from September 16, 1998, to September 30, 2003. Dr Susan Mandala, BA Carlisle Pennsylvania (US), MPhil (Cambridge), lecturer, English, from September 1, 1998, to August 31,

Dr Steven McGuire, BA (Calgary) MA (Toronto), DPhil (Oxon), lecturer, management, from September

Dr Jayalaxshmi Mistry. BSc (London). PhD (London). lecturer, geography from September 1, 1998. Dr David Morritt, BSc Botany and Zoology (Bristol). PhD Zoology (Bristol), lecturer, biological sciences. from October 1, 1999 Dr Andrew Mountford. BA (Cambridge), PhD (Browne University).

ber 1, 1998. Dr Catherine Nash, BA (Nottingham). PhD (Nottingham), lecturer, Geography from September 1, 1998 Dr Gül Berna Ozcan, BSc (Dokuz Eylül), MSc METU, PhD (Londonj, lecturer, management, from

lecturer, economics, from Septem-

September 1, 1998 Dr Teresa Peck, BA (Manch), MA, PhD (Texas), CPsychol., Licensed Clinical Psychologist (California), senior lecturer, psychology from September 14, 1998, to September

13, 2002 Dr Tamar Pincus, MSc (Lond), MPhil (Cantab). PhD (London). lecturer, psychology, from Septem-

ber 1, 1998. Professor Kenneth Pye, BA, MA (Oxon). PhD. ScD (Cantab). chair. Department of Geology, from September 1, 1998. Dr Jorge Tovar. BSc (Mexico), MSc (Guanajuato, Mexico), PhD

molecular biology (Lond), lecturer.

biosciences, from Jan 1, 1999 Dr Josephine Whitby, MA (Oxon), PhD (Edinburgh), part-time lecturer in literature of late antiquity and classical antecedents, from September 1, 1998, to August 31, 2000 Dr Alison Woodcock, BA (Reading). PGCE (Warwick), PhD (Reading), AFBPsS, lecturer, psychology. from September 1. 1998, to August

Dr Joanne Wright, BA (Joint Hons), (Cantab). MLitt (Aberdeen), PhD (Australian National Univ). senior lecturer, social and political science, from Jan 1, 1999.

Birthdays today

Lord Frederick Windsor is 20. Other birthdays include:

Mr Franta Belsky, sculptor, 78: Sir Paul Beresford, MP, 53; Miss Joan Bernard, former Principal, Trevelyan College, Durham, 81; Mr Rodney Bickerstaffe, trades unionist, 54; Mr Rory Brenner, impressionist. 38; Miss Joan Carlyle. soprano, 68: Mr Bernard Carter, painter and etcher, 79: Mr Harry Conroy, author, 56; Mr Roger Cook, investigative journalist and broadcaster, 56; Mr Paul Daniels, magician, 61: Admiral Sir Desmond Dreyer, 89; Mr Julian Faber, former chairman. Willis Faber. 82; Sir Angus Grossart, former chairman of the board of trustees. National Galleries of Scotland, 62; Mr Willis Hall. writer, 70; Professor David Ingram, former Vice-Chancellor, University of Kent at Canterbury, 72; Sir John Knox, former High Court Judge, 74; the Duke of Montrose, 64; Lord Moore of Wolvercote, 78; the Rev Ian Paisley, MP, MEP, 73; Miss Felicity Palmer, mezzo-soprano, 55: Mr André Previn, KBE, conductor, 70; Sir Marcus Worsley, former Lord-Lieutenant of North Yorkshire, 74.

Forthcoming

marriages Mr P.D. Pickering

The engagement is announced between Dean, eldest son of Mr and Mrs Ronald Pickering. of Limpsfield. Surrey, and Sallie. daughter of Mr and Mrs Malcolm Pearson, of Shelford, Nottingham-

Anniversaries

BIRTHS: Jean Baptiste Rousseau. poet, Paris, 1671; James Mill, utilizarian philosopher, Logieport, near Montrose, 1773; Alexander Herzen, writer and socialist, Moscow, 1812; Harry Houdini, escapologist, Appleton, Wisconsin, 1874: Anthony Herman Fokker, aviator, aircraft designer. Kederi, Java. 1890. DEATHS: King Richard I, reigned 1189-99. Chalun, France, 1199; Raphael, painter, Rome, 1520; Albrecht Dürer, painter and engraver, Nuremberg, 1528; Sir Francis Walsingham, statesman, London, 1590; John Stow, antiquary. London, 1605; Sir Seymour Hicks, Fleet, Hampshire, 1949: Jules Bordet, bacteriologist, Nobel laureate 1919, Brussels, 1961; Igor Stravinsky. composer, New York, 1971. An earthquake tremor damaged St

Paul's Cathedral, 1580. The Mormon Church was founded by Joseph Smith at Fayette, New York, 1830. Robert Peary arrived at the North

Pole, 1909. The United States declared war on Germany, 1917.

Professor Stuart Sutherland

A memorial ceremony celebrating Professor Stuart Sutherland's life will be held on Saturday, May I, at 3.00pm at The Meeting House. Sussex University, Falmer, Brighton. All friends, colleagues and ex-students very welcome. RSVP, if possible: Gay Sutherland, 43a Melford Road, London SE22 OAO, 0181 299 2323.

Latest wills

Mr Oleg Prokofiev, sculptor and painter, and son of the composer, Serge Prokotiev, of London SE3, left estate valued at £4,350,318 net. Mr Paul Odo Willert, oil dealer and art collector, of London SW3. left estate valued at £2,260,744 net. Mr Eprime Eshag, economist and fellow of Wadham College, Oxford University, left estate valued at £562,650 net. Among other bequests he left £20,000 to the college for maintenance of college paintings, silver and crockery.



Four-year-old Charlie Saunders with his London trolley was among the contestants yesterday at Battersea Park the original birthplace of the London Carthorse Parade in 1885 — for the London Harness Horse Parade

The Leverhulme trustees agreed at their recent meeting to award the following grants totalling £2.563,200 to institutions for research and education:

Research: law, politics, international relations University of Exeter, Dr J A Vincent, £49,100 over 12 months, Older people's and British political

processes. Research: basic sciences University of Leeds, Dr J Krause, University of Glasgow, Dr G D Ruxton, £44,770 over 2 years, differential costs and benefits relating to spatial positions within fish

Zoological Society of London, Dr P Armbruster, £25,420 over 12 months, the influence of environmental and genetic interactions on extinction dynamics.

Dr R Waugh, MRC Laboratory of Molecular Biology, University of Cambridge, Dr P Dear, £209,570 over 3 years, high throughput, high resolution physical mapping

St George's Hospital Medical School, University of London, Dr

Leverhulme Trust awards

M K Richardson, University College London. Dr M Coates. £88,000 over 3 years, patterns of evolutionary change in vertebrate embryonic development.

ter mixtures.

Scottish Crop Research Institute.

vents for chemistry.

University of Bristol, Dr G W Neilson, E52,950 over 2 years, Hydrophobic hydration and the hydrophobic effect: methane/wainfrared spectroscopy. University of Hull Dr J E

Nicholls, Dr S M Kelly, Dr M Stott, Dr P Garside, Dr R Airken, O'Neill, Dr C G Scott. £37,900 over £66,380 over 2 years, the mecha-3 years, nanocrystal-polymer strucnism of somatic hypermutation in tures for model microcavity lasers. germinal centre B-cells. University of Leeds, Dr A Nelson. Queen Mary and Westfield Col-£55,220 over 2 years, strategies for lege, Dr C G Faulkes, £94,610 over asymmetric synthesis: sequential 3 years, inbreeding avoidance and and parallel kinetic resolutions. the evolution of eusociality in the University of Sussex, Professor M Damaraland mole-rat. F Lappert, £62,640 over 2 years. University of the West of England.

new spectator ligands & their Bristol, Dr H Macdonald, £13,270 metal complexes as novel catalysts. over 6 months, guard cells as a Royal Institution of Great Britain, model system for investigating Professor C R A Catlow, £488,170 auxin signalling. over 5 years, solid state and University of Newcastle upon computational chemistry. Tyne, Dr P Farrimond, 286,270 Imperial College of Science, Techover 3 years, sedimentary hopanoids: marker compounds for past

Welton, Dr G B Young, £96,150 over 3 years, ionic liquids: non-volatile, environmentally friendly sol-

nology and Medicine, Professor M R Palmer, £101,040 over 3 years, variations in iron isotope composi-Physical & Theoretical Chemistry Laboratory, University of Oxford, tions in the natural environment. Professor J M Brown, £63,980.00 University of Wales College of over 2 years, the properties of Cardiff, Dr U Hahn, University of carbon chain molecules, studied by Warwick. Professor N Chater, £10,480 over 6 months, testing University of Glasgow, Dr D I representational distortion — a

> new theory of similarity. Research: applied sciences (including architecture)

environments.

Imperial College of Science, Tech-

University College London, Professor FT Smith, Dr G X Wu, £90,020 over 3 years, boundary-layer analysis of flow near the waterline of a surface-piercing body. Royal Holloway, Dr R Imrie.

£41,480 over 15months, architects and disabling design in the built environment University of Edinburgh, Dr P A

Furley, Dr S E Metcalfe, Dr A J Dugmore, Dr A W Tudhope, £56,580 over 2 years, reconstruction of environmental change in

Church news

Latest appointments include: The Rev Paul Firmin. Vicar.
The Rev Paul Firmin. Vicar.
Shrewsbury Holy Trinity w Si
Julian (Lichfield). to be Vicar.
Astley. Clive. Grinshill and Hadnall (same diocese). Canon Michael Fisher, formerly Vicar. Newquay (Truro). to be Canon Emeritus of Truro Cathe-

Prebendary Ann Hadley, Rector. Myddle, and Vicar, Broughton, and Diocesan Vocations Officer (Lichfield), to be interim Priest-in-Charge. Harvington (Worcester). The Rev Robert Law, Rector, St Columb Major with St Wenn, and Rural Dean of Pydar (Truro), to be Honorary Canon of Truro Cathe-

The Rev Jack Maple, Rector, St Marylebone St Paul (London), to be Priest-in-Charge, Fulham St Alban with St Augustine and Fulham St Peter.

The Rev Paul Maybury, Assistant Curate, Spondon (Derby), to be Vicar, Gawthorpe and Chickenley Heath (Wakefield). The Rev Chris McQuillen-Wright, Assistant Curate, Godrevy (Truro).

to be Team Vicar. Bodmin with Lanbydrock and Lanivet (same diocese).

The Rev Graham Minors, Vicar, Cainscross St Matthew and Selsley All Saints, and Rural Dean of Stonehouse (Gloucester). to be Team Rector, Bodmin with Lanhydrock and Lanivet (Truro). The Rev Lesley Perrins, NSM

lain. York Healthcare Trust. The Rev Malcolm Pickering. Priest-in-Charge, Badingham with Bruisyard, Cransford and Dennington (St Edmundsbury & Ips-wich), to be Vicar, Leiston (same diocese).

Assistant Curate. Haxby w Wiggin-

ion (York), to be Assistant Chap-

The Rev Robin Pirrie, Curate, Kings Lynn St Margaret with St Nicholas (Norwich), to be Vicar. Torridge Estuary Team (Exeter). The Rev James Richards, half-time Assistant Curate. Kendal Holy Trinity (Carlisle). to be Rector. Windermere St Martin (same

diocese). The Rev Patricia Robson, Priest-in-Charge, St Enoder (Truro), to be Honorary Canon of Truro Cathedral (same diocese).

The Rev Robert Rogers, Assistant Chaplain, York Healthcare Trust (York), to be Senior Chaplain. York Healthcare Trust The Rev lan Scott. Assistant

Chaplain, University Hospital Birmingham NHS Trust, to be Chaplain. South Warwickshire Combined Care NHS Trust (Covenity).

the tropical wetlands of Belize. University of Edinburgh, Dr S A West, £50,310 over 18 months, the importance of learning in the agricultural pest Helicoverpa ar-

Research: humanities University College London, Professor PJ Ucko, Professor J Graham-Campbell, Dr J Tanner, 153,050 over 2 years, the art of the face during the Early Medieval Period in Britain and Norway.

Research: Fine arts Roehampton Institute, Dr A Grau, £51.440 over 2 years. South Asian dance in Britain, negotiating cultural identity, through dance.

Education: fine arts Guildhall School of Music and Drama, Mr P Renshaw, £79,650 over 3 years. MAP/making, exploring new landscapes in music, art and performance.

London Studio Centre. Miss M Goodhew, £75,000 over 3 years, Help for performing arts students at London Studio Centre.

Major initiatives University of Bristol, Professor M G Anderson, £369,750 over 5 years. Centre of Advanced Studies/Fellowship Programme.

Something new out of ancient Timbuktu

BY NORMAN HAMMOND ARCHAEOLOGY CORRESPONDENT

TIMBUKTU, to most of us epitomises those far-off places of which we know little even Bishop Samuel Wilbertones famous Victorian doggered about the missionary and the "cassowary on the plains of Timbuktoo" was ornithologi. cally incorrect. So it is hardh surprising that the first archarology ever done in the remole West African city took place only last year.

Archaeological research in Timbuktu poses several challenges, according to Dr Timothy Insoft of Manchester University. These include the great depth of the deposits and the danger in excavating them," he says. Among the hazards which be found were unstable layers of horse dune from colonial French cavalry stabling next to one trench which had a habit of collaps. ing on to the excavators.

Although some of the extavations reached a depth of 16ft, much of the deposits were relatively recent tobacco pipe stems were found even in the lowest layers reached showing that they must postdate the 16th century and the introduction of tobacco from America. In North America. the diameter of the pipe-stem bore has proved a reliable dating tool.

The artefacts found at Timbuktu, currently on display at the British Museum, were different from those Dr Insoll has found at the earlier site of Gao. some distance downstream on the Niger although still in the Republic of Mali Both cities lay within the medieval empire of Mali, and also the succeeding 16th-century empire of Songhay centred

on Gao. Timbuktu. however, lay in the more strategic location, where the trade route linking Fez and the Gold Coast through the Sahara crossed the salt route from Idill in Mauritania to the Hausa states of northern Nigeria.

Dr Insoll expects much earlier finds to emerge: boreholes made during construction of a new water tower showed some 50ft of occupation deposits. He proposes to use a coring machine, such as Dr Roderick McIntosh has used at the Jenne site farther up the Niger, to document prehistoric occupation and the first urban developments in West Africa.

"The steps needed to complete archaeological investigation of the origins and development of Timbuktu are now understood." Dr Insoll said. There is a great difference between what might be indicated on the surface, and what in reality exists below

ground." He plans to return at the end of next year: the new millennium may see fresh light on this ancient crossroads of Africa.

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Just so, I tell you, there will be more joy in heav-en over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who need no repentance. Luke 15.7 (NRSV).

BIRTHS BARTON - On April 1st 1999 to Louiss (née Feilding) and Richard, a daughter, Phoebe Isobel Antonia. coles - On 31st March at the John Radcliffe Hospital, to Polly (née Easton) and Robert, a son,

William Finn Allen.

HITCHCOCK - On 31st March 1999 to Elizabeth and David, a son, Edward David, a brother for Peter NORLAND - On 29th March in Los Angeles, to Lucy (née Broadbent) and David, a son, Thomas Christopher Paul.

ORR - On 27th March to Emms (née Bird) and Nicholas, a son, James Angus Charles, a brother for Katharine SHILLINGTON - On April 1st 1999 to Polly (née Kennedy) and Tommy, a son, Finnian David

DEATHS

SELSON - Philip Charles Euan, aged 83 years, after a brief iliness, on Wednesday 31st March at Lymington Respital Much loved father and grandfather. Family only Cremation Service. A Service of Thanksgiving for his life will be held at Beaulieu Abbey Church on Thursday, 22nd April at 2.30 pm. No flowers please, donations if desired to Cancer Research Campaign, c/o Diamond & Son Funeral Directors. Lymington, SO41 9DN. BUTTERWORTH - Sr Halen Louise (Benedict) **Butterworth IBVM** died suddenly but percelully at home in Sheringham on Maundy Thursday aged 77.

The funeral Mass will be at 2.00 pm on Wednesday.

April 14th at the Church

of Our Lady and English Martyrs, Cambridge.

DEATHS died 3rd April 1999. Beloved wife of the late Fred and dearly loved mother of Richard and adoring grandmother of Rupert, Annabel and

Sophie and great-grandmother of Harry and Scarlet, Sarvice at Randalls Park Crematorium, Leatherhead at 12 noon on Thursday 8th April. Family flowers only, but donations in her memory if desired to RNLI c/o James & Thomas Ltd., P/D 45 East Lane, West Horsley, Surrey KT24 6HQ Tel: (01483) 284948. DUFFIN - Lt. Col Charles

John Riddel, late Scots Guards, On April 1st 1999. in Dumfries, beloved husband of Angels and a much loved father and grandiather. Cremation private Thanksgiving Service on Thursday, April 22nd at St John's Church, Dumfries at 2pm. Please, no flowers but donations, if wished, to The Alexandra Unit, Dumfries & Galloway Infirmary. GARDMER - Andrew passed away suddenly on 2nd April 1999 aged 66. A much loved husband.

father and grandfather who will be dearly missed by all his loving family and all who knew him. A service for Andrew will be held at St George's Church, Benenden, Kent on Monday 12th April 1999 at 11.30 am. No flowers but donations if desired please to The Kent Air Ambulance c/o TW Fuggle & Son F/D 20 Ashford Road, Tenterden, Kent TN30 6QU Tel: 01580 763340.

MALLEY - Margaret (Rita). On the eve of her 80th Much loved mother, mother-in-law and grandmother. Greatgrantly of Hamish.

To place death notices, acknowledgements or notices please call 0171 680 6880

BLAKE - Ida Mary (Mollie) of | LAYZELL - Stephen Weston.
Guildford, Surrey aged 93 | Entered into the presence of the Lord he loved and served for over 50 years, suddenly in hospital, on Tuesday 30th March, aged 71. He will be greatly missed by his wife, family, church fellowship and many friends. Lately Managing Director, Blake Marston Priest, Insurance Replace, Served the Level

Brokers. Served the Lord faithfully as member, descon and elder in the church at Streathern and as teacher and Superintendent in the Sunday School and Grace Baptist Trust Corporation, SB Trust and with Pilgrim Homes. The Funeral Service of Remembrance

and Thanksgiving will be held at Hambro Road Beptist Church, Streatham, at 2 pm on Monday 12th April. followed by interment at Streatham Park Cemetery, Rowan Road, SW16. Family flowers only. please, but donations in his memory, made payable to either Pilgrim Homes or Grace Baptist Trust Corporation, will be gratefully received by the

family via Dowsett and

1507 London Road.

Norbury, SW16 4AE,

Jenkins Funeral Directors,

telephone - 0181 764 2912.

birthday. in Londonderry. Widow of W. E. (Bill).

SEAWRIGHT - Margaretha Johanna (Bobbie) died on 31st March 1999. Loved by husband John, Anitra, Hans, Petra, Hannah and Tessa, Funeral at West London Cremstorium on Thursday 8th April 21 3pm.
Family and close friends
only. No flowers. Donations to M.I.N.D.

nology and Medicine. Dr T

Monisford Funeral at 4.00 pm, Wednesday 14th April 1999 at Shellingford Church, near Faringdon, Oxfordshire. Family WESTON - John Carruthers on 26th March 1999 in his 82nd year. The funeral has taken place. for the new garden, including a memorial bench, at the Old Vicarage, **SERVICES** Benson Lane, Crowmarsh Cifford, Wallingford, Oxon OX10 SED.

PAUL - Jonethan Martin peacefully on March 31st 1999 aged 56 years. Private family funeral. A Service of Celebration will be beld at St Mary le Tower Church Inswich on Friday April 16th at 3.00 pm. No flowers please but donations if wished for Cancer Research may be sent to Farthing, Singleton & Hastings, 650 Woodbridge Road, Ipswich IP4 4PW.

MYNORS - David Rickards

Baskerville, much loved

grandfather. Died peacefully, 1st April 1999, at the Old Vicarage,

flowers only. Donations

c/o Howard Chadwick

Clockhouse Cottage,

Funeral Service,

brother, father and

PLUNKET – Allega Sybil Mary (née Guinness) at home while peacefully asleep, on March 31st. Funeral Service at St George's Aubrey Walk, Campden Hill, W8 at 2.30 on Thursday 8th April.

SCOTT - Peacefully in hospital on the 31st March 1999 Roger Oldrid aged 90 years of Morcombalake, Bridport, Dorset, Requiem Mass to be held at Bridport Roman Catholic Church on Friday 9th April at 10.00em. Family flowers only please but donations if desired for C.A.F.O.D. are being accepted c/o A C Down P/D, 66 South Street, Bridport, Dorset, DT6 3NN. Tel: 01308 422643.

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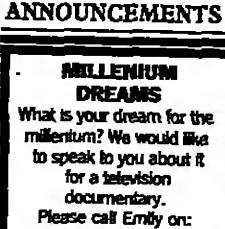
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ANNOUNCEMENTS

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AILEEN PLUNKET

Aileen Plunket, Irish hostess, died on March 31 aged 94. She was born on May 16, 1904.

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he eldest of the three Guinness sisters. Aileen Plunket became a legendary hostess in She was the elder sister of Maureen, Marchiones of Dufferin and Ava. and of Oonagh, Lady Oranmore and Browne. For many years "Mrs P' (as some friends called her) lived and enter-tained at her lovely residence. Luttrellstown, in Co Dublin. She was no more a stranger to eccentricity than the other Guinnesses, and was noted for having cupboards full of shoes to rival those of her friend the Duchess of Windsor — or even Mrs Imelda Marcos. Nor did she hesitate to fly to Paris Dublin or London to have her hair done by the legendary hairdresser Monsieur Alexandre in his salon at the Rond Point des Champs

At a party in the 1920s Sir Sacheverell Sitwell complained to Stephen Tennant: There are too many Guinnessest and as Tennant recalled Eight or nine Guinnesses in the room looked round angrily." Maureen, Oonagh, Meraud, Tanis and many of the others predeceased her, but Aileen lived on, latterly a tiny figure in black, with a black velvet headband, suffering from esteuporosis.

Aileen Sibell Mary Guinness was the eldest daughter of Ernest Guinness, and a grand-daughter of the 1st Earl of Iveagh. She was perhaps the grandest of his three daughters. Maureen was funnier and naughtier, and Oonagh slightly timid, veering more towards Southern Ireland's unpredictable literary

society. The film director John Huston wrote of them: "The sisters are all witches, lovely ones to be sure, but witches nonetheless. They are all transparentskinned, with pale hair and light blue eyes. You can very nearly see through them. They are quite capable of changing swinish folk into real swine before your very eyes, and turning them back again without their even knowing it. Or putting the wrong words into

the mouths of pretentious persons, so that everyone, including the victims, is appalled at the nonsense they

Aileen's father. Ernest Guinness, ran the family brewery and she was brought up in Southern Ireland until her father became concerned about Sinn Fein and sent her to school in England. She came out in London and was photographed by Cecil Beaton.

In 1927 she married her first husband, the Hon Brinsley Plunket younger son of the 5th Lord Plunket. They had rwo daughters, the younger of whom, Doon, married the Queen's first cousin, 5th Earl Granville. During the Second World War Brinsley Plunket served as a flight lieutenant in the RAF Volunteer Reserve. He and Aileen divorced in 1940, and the following November he was killed on active service. Partly out of loneliness she

made an unfortunate second choice of husband in 1956, in Valerian Stux-Rybar, a designer born in Yugoslavia who began life as a trainee at the New York store Lord & Taylor, and went on to work for Elizabeth Arden as a windowdresser. Later he achieved his own fame, creating opulent rooms and dressing extravagant parties. He designed the lobby of the Plaza Athenée Hotel in New York. He was described as the world's most expensive decorator. His wife confessed that she certainly found him an expensive mistake, but she remained on friendly terms with him even after their divorce in 1965. Nevertheless, she reverted to the Plunket name. Stux-Rybar died in 1990 aged 71.

On her first marriage, Aileen's father had given her Luttrelistown Castle, at Clonsilla, Co Dublin, not far from Phoenix Park. It was a large. crenellated castle, set in a 570-acre park entirely surrounded by a wall, which enclosed a large lake and stream (with a many-arched bridge), a sham ruin, a Doric temple and much beautiful parkland. The castle itself was rebuilt in the early 18th century for Luke White, the MP for Leitrim. Plunket brought palatial elegance. She replaced the 19th-century Tudor banqueting hall with a dining room in



Aileen, the eldest of the Guinness sisters, filled her castle with treasures and guests

18th-century style, adorned with birds, swags and foliage of stucco on the walls. The ceiling was painted by de Wit.

Her designer, Felix Harbord — sometimes nicknamed "Hardboard", or even "Cardboard" — created an Adamesque drawing-room with grisaille paintings by Peter de Gree. The staircase hall was given a ceiling painted by Thornhill. Aileen filled the castle with treasures, beautiful pictures, tapestries, carpets

and furniture. (Some years later she sued Harbord for selling some paintings which she insisted she had only wanted valued. She won the case.) While her sister Maureen collected owls in every form, Aileen collected frogs in china, crystal and various fabrics. Inevitably, Luttrellstown sported a cushion inscribed: "Before you meet a handsome prince, you have to kiss a lot of toads."

Southern Ireland's finest properties, and there she entertained generously for more than half a century, often in a most unconventional way. She loved fancy dress and swimming parties. She gave a drag party, a "come unrecognisable" party (at which she failed to spot her own daughter), a floor party (at which everyone sat and ate on the floor) and, in the 1960s impressed by the beaded hip-Luttrellstown was one of pies of California — she

imported a black American dance teacher to teach her guests to do the twist.

She was at times an exacting hostess, hating her guests to leave, and was known to pounce on those sneaking out at 4am to guide them back into the room. More formally, the Irish Government prevailed on her to help to entertain official visitors, as Luttrellstown had the necessary splendour and was conveniently

Eventually, in 1983, she found the castle too big and was prevailed upon to sell it. Christie's arranged a memorably sad sale of the contents, marking the end of a particu-lar era of Irish life. The star lot in the three-day sale was a royal commode from the Palace of Fontainebleau, made for Louis XV by Joubert and Marchand, which fetched £64,000. The castle itself was sold to a private buyer, who also purchased some of the

Plunket was a close friend of the Duchess of Windsor, and was celebrated for once appearing at a party in the 1960s dressed in a highly conspicuous black-and-white striped dress by Givenchy identical to the one being worn by the Duchess. The two ladies were photographed together. Plunket attended the Duchess's funeral in 1986 with her hair specially coiffed into her black

Although a Guinness, she often pleaded poverty, and though there were many servants at Luttrellstown, it was said that they were scarcely paid. Bills were likewise neglected. But she was unpredictable. Shortly after listening to a dissertation about her poverty, one of her guests was surprised to see her in Paris, where she had flown from Dublin to have her hair done. On another occasion she took her daughter out to hunch to beg for money. When it was given, she promptly spent it all on frivolous luxuries at Asprey and elsewhere.

Latterly she lived in London and in a house near Bishop's Stortford in Hertfordshire. Although immensely frail she still appeared at the occasional party, especially if royalty was present. She is survived by her younger daughter.

SID GREEN

Sidney Green, comedy writer, died on March 15 aged 71. He was born on January 24, 1928.

SID GREEN was half of one of the most sucessful comedywriting dues of the 1960s. With his partner Dick Hills, he wrote material for such popular performers of the day as Sid James, Frankie Howerd, Brace Forsyth and Bob Monkhouse. However, their most successful venture was an eight-year collaboration with Morecambe and Wise, whom their scripts propelled to national stardom.

The first Morecambe and Wise show had been poorly received, but Hills and Green helped to rescue their flagging act. By 1963 Eric and Ernie were winning awards, and in 1968 they gained a contract with BBC television, such was the degree of their success.

Sidney Charles Green was born in Becontree, Essex, and educated at Haberdashers' Aske's School at Elstree, Hertfordshire, where he met Dick Hills. After a period in the armed forces - where they were both officers, Hills in the Navy. Green in the Army the two met at an old boys' rugby match, by which time both were teachers. They decided to turn their hand to comedy scripts, beginning by writing a pantomime for the old boys' rugby club.
It was after this that the pair

decided to write comedy for a living. They struggled at first. until the Cockney comedian Dave King took them under his wing as one of his regular scriptwriters in the 1950s.

Green and Hills first met Eric Morecambe and Ernie Wise in 1960 on The Alma Cogan Show, where they were appearing as guest stars. The four immediately liked each other, and when Associated Television offered Morecambe and Wise their own show, Eric insisted that Green and Hills ioin them.

Besides writing. Green and Hills often appeared on camera. Industrial action by the actors' union Equity meant that the pair appeared repeatedly as extras on the early Morecambe and Wise shows. Later they starred in their own television programmes, That Show and Those Two Fellers,



by which time they were the highest paid comedy writers in the business.

They had their disappointments too. Green's bizarre comedy of 1960. The Strange World of Gurney Slade, was badly received, as were the three films Green and Hills wrote for Morecambe and Wise: without an audience to play to. Eric and Ernie looked uncomfortable and unfunny.

Soon after Morecambe and Wise secured their BBC deal, Eric suffered a severe heart attack, which kept the programme off the air for ten months. When it resumed, Green and Hills had moved on to ATV and two years later they left for America. Hills returned to Britain in 1974, leaving Green, who went on to join the scriptwriters of The Johnny Carson Show. Dick Hills died in 1996.

In 1977 Green devised a romantic comedy about a mixed-race love affair, but no American television network was brave enough to accept it. However, it was snapped up by the controller of London Weekend Television, Michael Grade, and shown as Mixed Blessing.

Green returned to Britain soon afterwards, and worked with the latest batch of mainstream comedians, such as Cannon and Ball, Freddy Starr, Michael Barrymore and the Krankies, although by then old-fashioned variety comedy seemed to be on its last legs. Green retired to Frinton-on-Sea, where he enjoyed a brief second career as an after-dinner speaker.

Following a heart attack, Sid Green underwent a triple bypass in 1984. He is survived by his wife, Margaret, and their three daughters.

ADMIRAL SIR WILLIAM PILLAR

Admiral Sir William Pillar, GBE, KCB, Chief of Fleet Support, 1979-81, died on March 18 aged 75. He was born on February 24, 1924.

IN RECOGNITION of his achievements as a naval engineer and because of the great affection in which he was held, Bill Pillar's friends recently clubbed together to have his portrait painted. The picture, by Theo Ramos, was presented to the naval engineering school HMS Sultan at Gosport just a fortnight before Pillar's death, in a ceremony much enhanced by his witty and touching speech, delivered as usual without notes but on this occasion from a wheelchair.

Only the second engineer to achieve the rank of full admiral, Bill Pillar entered the Navy in 1942 from Blundell's School and

took an engineering degree at the Royal Naval Engineering College at Manadon near Plymouth. Subsequent appointments included sea duty in the aircraft carrier Illustrious. the dispatch vessel Alert in the Far East and the destroyer Corunna.

His ability to lead and motivate people was well respected. In one post in Gibraltar, he found himself on the other side of the table from that formidable trade unionist Joe Bassano - later Chief Minister of Gibraltar -who remembers Pillar for his grasp of the strategic utility of Gibraltar dockyard and his appreciation of the loyalty of the workforce. "We had very tough negotiations, but at one minute to five we would become friends again

and go down to the pub." Pillar's most professionally enjoyable seagoing tour was as chief engineer of the cruiser Tiger, which visited South America in 1964-65. This was followed by a relaxed appointment on the staff of the Commanderin-Chief South Africa and South American station, based at Cape fown.

His inspirational talents were never put to better use than as captain of the Royal Naval Engineering College Manadon where he made it his business to know. understand and guide every one of the young students. He was also able to indulge his passion for sailing. Convinced of the character-building effect of offshore yachting, he would often accompany crews of students, but never as skipper and always taking his turn at the menial

He and his family had a particular love of Scotland from his three tours there, including Port Admiral Rosyth in 1976. From 1977 to 1981, as Assistant and subsequently Chief of Fleet Support, Pillar was involved in the often painful management of decline under the severe budgetary pressures of the period. Particu-



larly distressing for him was the closure of the Chatham and Gibraltar dockyards - at Chatham, in the absence of a minister, he took it upon himself to break the news — and the reductions in the Royal Fleet Auxiliaries, the Navy's tankers and store ships. Slightly older than many members of the Admiralty Board, he was in some sense a father confessor, advising, for example, against resignations as a reaction to the damaging 1981

Defence Review. In 1982 Pillar became the first naval engineer to be appointed Commandant of the Royal College of Defence Studies, where he was much admired for his educated commentaries when introducing internationally celebrated visiting speakers.

From 1985 to 1990 he was Lieutenant-Governor of Jersey, the constitutional link between the Sovereign and the States, or parliament, of the island. With enthusiasm and a characteristic absence of pretension, he supported all aspects of Jersey life and conducted the representational aspects of the role with style.

Generous with his time in the pursuit of good causes, he was valued for his pragmatic wisdom as president of the Forces' Help Society and Lord Roberts Workshops as well as for his work for the RNVR Youth Sail Training Trust and the training brig Rovalist. For twenty years he was a Commodore and Life Vice-Commodore of the Royal Naval Sailing Association.

He was appointed KCB in 1980 and GBE in 1983. Despite these and other honours, he preserved an attractive modesty, remaining at heart a practical engineer whose recreations were always "rough gardening and fixing things".

He is survived by his wife. Ursula, whom he married in 1946 and by their three sons and daughter.

ERICA O'DONNELL

Erica O'Donnell, MBE, founder of the Study Centre for the History of the Fine and Decorative Arts. died on March 12 aged 79.

She was born in Dublin on March 11, 1920.

WHEN Erica O'Donnell

opened the Study Centre for the History of the Fine and Decorative Arts at the Victoria and Albert Museum in 1964, it was unique in offering a year's diploma course in which the history of furniture, ceramics, textiles and metalwork received equal treatment with architecture, painting and sculpture. Its success was attested by the number of applicants, who for years far outnumbered available places, and by the number of decorative art courses that sprang up elsewhere. Alumni of the course now include the directors and curators of national museums, art historians throughout the English-speaking world and hundreds of lay enthusiasts.

Erica O'Donnell was the only child of Major-General Eric O'Donnell. She was educated at St Mary's Ascot, and tutored in Paris and Salzburg. At the age of 18 she entered the Courtauld Institute to study the history of art, but with the outbreak of war she took a position with M15, which guaranteed an interesting wartime career. After that she moved to the BBC Foreign Service, then to the Special Operations Executive, where she became an Intelligence Officer for Czechoslovakia. In her next assignment she was parachuted

behind German lines. Finally she worked for the Red Cross, with responsibility for the survivors from concentration

After the war she was social secretary to the Duff-Coopers at the British Embassy in Paris for their final burst of high living at Hötel de Charost. Returning to London in 1948, she resumed art history research at the Courtauld Institute, then a vortex of academic studies. There she met the distinguished émigrès Sir Ernst Gombrich, Johannes Wilde and Rudolf Wittkower, as well as British historians. She joined Kenneth Clark's research team and later assisted Anthony Blunt in cataloguing the drawings by Stefano Della Bella in the Royal Collection. These towering personalities made a great impression on her, and she saw to it that they remembered her.

In 1956 she married the Polish historian and author Jozef Kisielewski. Exiled from his homeland by the German and later the Communist authorities because of his patrioric writing, he became a prominent figure in the Polish community in London until

his death in 1965. Faced then with the need to support two sons, O'Donnell returned full time to art history. She had noticed that while universities taught the history of fine art and museums put on lectures and gallery talks, nobody offered a course that embraced all aspects of the fine and the decorative arts. So she de-



signed one that would appeal to aspiring museum keepers. country house owners, auction-

eers and students alike. Her principal ally was Sir Trenchard Cox, the Director of the V & A from 1956 to 1966, who permitted her to use the museum's lecture hall and galleries. The curriculum was established by a distinguished academic board, and lecturers were recruited from O'Donnell's circle at the museum and the Courtauld-

The study centre had no premises - and after 1975 it was entirely nomadic — so instead it operated out of her handbag (which also contained the stock of a tobacconist's shop). Keeping overheads to a minimum, the centre was personified by her diminutive figure in the habitual smock-dress. Circling round the V & A's entrance hall in a manner both unobtrusive and assertive, she might be interviewing a new student. calming a novice lecturer or reestablishing her flimsy terri-

She developed persuasion as an art form, and few who knew her had not been thoroughly intimidated on at least one occasion. She was adept at kindling a sense of obligation, consistent in ignoring counterarguments and resilient in the face of defeat, as when the study centre was ousted from the V & A in 1975. Those who knew her well

understood that she was formidable by design, not by nature. Tenacious and outspoken on behalf of others, she remained modest about herself, shy on formal occasions and in need of encouragement before speaking in public. She was not a natural teacher, but she

proved a shrewd judge of character, quick to recognise the potential and limitations of both lecturers and students. For promising students seek-

ing work in the art world — a profession with more snakes than ladders — she was ready with advice on how to find careers appropriate to their interests and talents, and would then provide introductions and write references that were candid, perceptive and magisterial

She retired as director of the study centre in 1990 and in the same year-was appointed MBE. Recent years brought diabetes and suffering. Being one of life's givers, she remained independent and resisted more offers of help than she accepted. She took pride in the success of the study centre's alumni and above all in her two sons, who survive her.

ERIC BOURNE

Eric Bourne, foreign correspondent, died on February 27 aged 89. He was born on March 2, 1909.

ERIC BOURNE belonged to the golden age for newspaper foreign correspondents, before television intruded by providing coverage — in colour — the night before the papers appeared. But Bourne was never a member of the more glamorous foreign corps whose bylines were known to millions. Instead, he relied on an intimate knowledge of Eastern Europe and its key figures. which meant that his career survived the arrival of other media and even the collapse of the Communist regimes that

he had studied for decades. Bourne came from Sevenoaks, an unlikely starting point for one who spent much

of his time travelling up and down the Balkans like a character from an Eric Ambler novel. After Sevenoaks School he joined the Sevenoaks Chronicle and learnt shorthand. which was to prove most useful when covering the trials of Nazi war criminals.

He proceeded to the Press Association and the News Chronicle, the usual progress of an ambitious young reporter, and then in 1945 he moved to Reuters. This was his big chance. He became its bureau head in Germany and for ten months he covered the Nuremberg trials. He was the only journalist able to take down Rudolf Hess's jabbering final statement before he was sen-

tenced to death. From Reuters Bourne went to Prague for The Sunday Times and started reporting

regularly for the Daily Express. His speciality was the Balkans, and a telephone call from "Bourne of Belgrade" always meant that something worth printing was arriving.

Soon his remit extended to take in all of Eastern Europe. His contacts included Communist Party leaders as well as the early dissidents. He covered the Communist coup in Czechoslovakia in 1948, the Hungarian uprising in 1956 and the Soviet invasion of Prague in 1968. During the Hungarian uprising Bourne was in Budapest for The Sunday Times while the Express coverage was entrusted to Sefton Delmer, the paper's great star. Bourne, who was rightly proud of his profession-

alism, got his copy out. Del-

mer, after the first day, did not.

In the 1960s Bourne left

Fleet Street for The Christian Science Monitor. It was a paper which appreciated expertise and in-depth reporting. Bourne, never a member of the trench-coat school of foreign correspondents, suited it admirably. He was still writing a column shortly before

his death. He was reticent, self-deprecating and quite unselfish. He liked nothing better than to share his knowledge with other correspondents who had arrived with little background knowledge of the situation they were expected to cover. He presided over select groups at the special tables he always had reserved for him at hotels in Eastern European capitals and provided what amounted

to tutorials in current events. He was married three times and leaves a wife and a son.

POOR HOTEL SERVICE VISITORS' EVIDENCE

The general conclusion that the public do not get the service which is reasonable and necessary in British hotels outside the luxury class has been arrived at by the hotels committee of the British Tourist and Holidays Board after hearing the evidence of a widely representative cross-section of hotel users.

It was also found that poor service and indifferent food in many cases drive overseas visitors to the continent of Europe, where standards in both service and food are higher; and that the remedy for some shortcomings lies in the hands of the hotelier. Action by the Government is urgently necessary to give relief from high wage costs, the high cost of furnishings and equipment largely due to purchase tax, the effect of unreasonable licensing laws, and the obstacle to good catering represented by the 5 shillings limit upon the price of

meals in hotels and restaurants. So far as hotels of the most expensive

ON THIS DAY

April 6, 1950

A not unfamiliar criticism of food in some British hotels but, it should be remembered, this report came at a time of austerity, only a few years after the end of the Second World War.

"luxury" type were concerned, the services provided by those in Britain ranked equal in every respect with those offered by hotels of the same type in other countries anywhere in the world.

The general opinion was that the reception of visitors on arrival at other hotels left a very good deal to be desired. Visitors liked to be made to feel that they were really welcome and not that they were a mere room number to be dealt with in an impersonal manner with the

utmost speed. Some witnesses had noted a deterioration in the quality of service compared with that given before the war, and some had noted an even greater deterioration in the past two years.

The general standard of comfort in lounges appeared on the whole to be reasonably satisfactory and the general opinion was that British beds were very comfortable, and that bedclothes were sufficient, with the proviso: "Some method of preventing eiderdowns from slipping off should be devised."

Breakfast was agreed to be the worst meal of the day, both in quantity and variety, and the suggestion was made that it could be improved by the provision of toast instead of bread, and by the addition of fresh fruit

The general opinion, says the report, was that the standard of vegetable cooking was very low and that it could and should be improved upon. Boiled potatoes, whether served whole or mashed, were generally wet and unappetising looking, and green vegetables were too often accompanied by much of the water in which they had been boiled.

THE TIMES TODAY

Short comes to aid of refugees

Mobbed by bewildered refugees. Clare Short confronted Macedonian officials and urged them to stop obstructing families escaping Kosovo. The British minister demanded that 11 busloads of refugees who had spent 12 hours stranded on a roadside near the frontier be allowed into a relief camp built by British soldiers......Reports, pages 1-9

Birth on the run

Mahia Islama was on the run from the Serbs when she gave birth to her seventh child on a pile of old clothes in the forest. There was no water and no medicine. They had been running from the Serbs for three days.....Page 3

Serb rift on losses

Confusion is growing over the number of deaths and injuries caused by Nato airstrikes because of a rift between politicians in Belgrade. While state media outlets are intent on fanning patriotism inside the country, hardline leadside world in the dark......Page 5 kans nightmare.....

Apache attack ready

Nato is about to move more aggressively into the low level bombing phase of its campaign, marshalling Apache anack helicopters and aircraft armed with cluster bombs to hit the Yugoslav forces in Kosovo......Page 8

Albright 'pushed US'

As the US and Nato enter the third week of bombardment with more military hardware pouring into the region, there are some who fear that Madeleine Albright's own experiences, rather than considerations of diplomacy, ers are determined to keep the out- may have pushed Nato into a Bal-....Page 9



Sanctions against Libya are lifted

Libya faces a compensation bill of hundreds of millions of pounds if the two men handed over yesterday to face trial for the Lockerbie disaster are convicted. The surrender of Abdel Baset Ali Mohamed al-Megrahi and al-Amin Khalifa Fhimah led to the immediate suspension of the UN sanctions against Libya which have been in force since 1992......Pages 1, 10

Pair plucked from sea

A pregnant woman and her art dealer husband survived nearly two hours in icy waters after their helicopter, packed with works of art, crashed off the Dorset coast. Suffering shock and hypothermia. Paul and Lisa Burgess clung to helicopter debris......Page 1

Scottish MPs' pay bid Members of the first Scottish parliament in 300 years are to use the historic first term to demand a 15 per cent pay increase to boost their £40,000 salaries. They might also ask the Ministry of Defence to withdraw its nuclear sub-

marine fleet.......Page 13

Cabinet candidates John Reid, the Transport Minister, and Paul Murphy, the Northern Ireland Minister, have emerged as strong candidates to enter the Cabinet when Tony Blair makes a reshuffle over the coming three months...... Page 14

Chinese PM visits US

Zhu Rongji, the Chinese Prime Minister, is starting an eight-day visit to the US at a time when Sino-US ties have been battered by disputes ranging from Beijing's trade deficit and China's alleged theft of nuclear secrets, to human rights issues and now the Kosovo imbroglio...... Page 15

2,000 to share royal couple's big day

Prince Edward and Sophie Rhys-Jones are to invite 2,000 members of the public inside the precincts of Windsor Castle for their wedding in June. Applications will be invited for tickets to view the couple entering and leaving St George's Chapel, spiritual home to the Order of the Garter, which



The World Coal Carrying Championships at Gawthorpe, near Wakefield, began 36 years ago with two coalminers arguing about who could run the fastest with a sack of coal on his back. John Hunter won yesterday's event, run over a mile with a 1101b bag, in 4m 27sec

Shares shunned: The number of stock market flotations slumped to its lowest level in 10 years in the first quarter, with institutional investors accused of shunning smaller companies......Page 44 High interest: Hopes are growing of an interest rate cut in Britain and Europe this week, amid evidence of a continuing slowdown in most Eu-

ropean economies...... Page 44 Unhealthy outlook: Companies could be forced to withdraw private healthcare benefits offered to employees because of a sharp rise in costs......Page 44

Looking up: More than 150,000 people have made enquiries to National Savings about the Individual Savings Account (ISA), the new tax-free

SPORT Football: Everton have been playing with fire for a long time, and af-

ter 45 consecutive seasons in the top flight this could be the year that they go down in flames Page 23 Racing: Richard Dunwoody became the leading National Hunt jockey yesterday when he broke Peter Scudamore's record of 1,678 career wins with two victories at Win-

... Page 29 Golf: As competitors assembled for the Masters in Augusta all the talk was of David Duval, who has won four tournaments this year, two in succession.....Page 27

Rugby league: Leeds Rhinos defeated London Broncos 38-12 in a Super League match which was a dress-rehearsal for the Silk Cut Challenge Cup final....

Hot from Hollywood: Giles Whittell on The Matrix - the Keanu Reeves sci-fi thriller that has broken American box-office records over the East-

er weekend......Page 32 Missing link: An exhibition now on in Leeds casts new light on Katarzyna Kobro, who provides the vital inter-war link between Russian Constructivism and European Modern-....Page 33

Art books: Richard Cork leafs through the glossy pages of a selection of tempting spring volumes for art lovers, from Ingres and Manet to sculpture and crafts...... Page 33 Italian feast: In Parma and Bologna. Rodney Milnes gets the chance to hear good provincial Italian productions of operas by the composer Giordano..........Page 34

TOMORROW

IN THE TIMES

■ INTERFACE

has never been

goes online

HOMES

FOREST

Losing your money

easier, as gambling

Why the smart money

FEATURES -

an arm and a leg while clearing a

Dr Thomas Stuttaford: Douglas Bader's battle to fly again after the loss of both legs continues to provide inspiration..... Page 16

THE PARTY Unsettling: Thousands of companies have failed to reveal in their annual reports the average time it takes them to settle bills. So how useful is the late-payment legislation in helping small firms to deal

with big business? Page 37

Running ahead: The man who lost minefield in Mozambique tells how he came to run the London Marathon less than a year after leaving hospital......Pages 16, 17

Sik cut: Why does the Bar, which values its independence, leave the awarding of silk to the Govern-

Too often the Clinton Administration has let its pursuit of diplomatic engagement with China take precedence over important interests, like defending human rights and protecting military secrets. The visit of China's Prime Minister. Zhu Rongji, to the US should be used to encourage a more exacting approach. He has a well-earned reputation for speaking clearly, without diplomatic evasion. Officials who meet him should be equally direct.

The New York Times

RADIO & TE

preview: Stephen Tompkinson is a larky mood for a trip from Singa pore to Bangkok. Great Railion Journeys (BBC2, 9.30pm) Peyler Joe Joseph is impressed by the street magic of a young conjurer Paul Zenon. Turning Tricks (Chan-

A moral duty

OPINION

Accommodating the sick; the children and the elderly from among the refugees is a moral and a political imperative. Britain must set an example of compassion as well as military resolution...... Page 19

Mr Zhu in Washington Beijing is muttering about privatisation and tariff reform. But such necessary ideas are politically sensitive and hard to push forward when civil unrest and loss of central control are the bogeys that Chi. na most fears.....Page 19

Mine of information

The hillside furnaces and once famous Big Pit of a Welsh mining community should be preserved so that future generations might understand some of the paradoxes of

COLUMINS LIBBY PURVES

I suspect that the Anglo-Saxon and Northern European leaders — and their electors - would always find excuses to help white victims before black.....Page 18

MICHAEL GOVE

Now, at the drop of a Nato bomb, Tony Blair acts out the part of war leader in the style of Gladstone, then boom Thatcher, and then

HELEN RUMBELOW

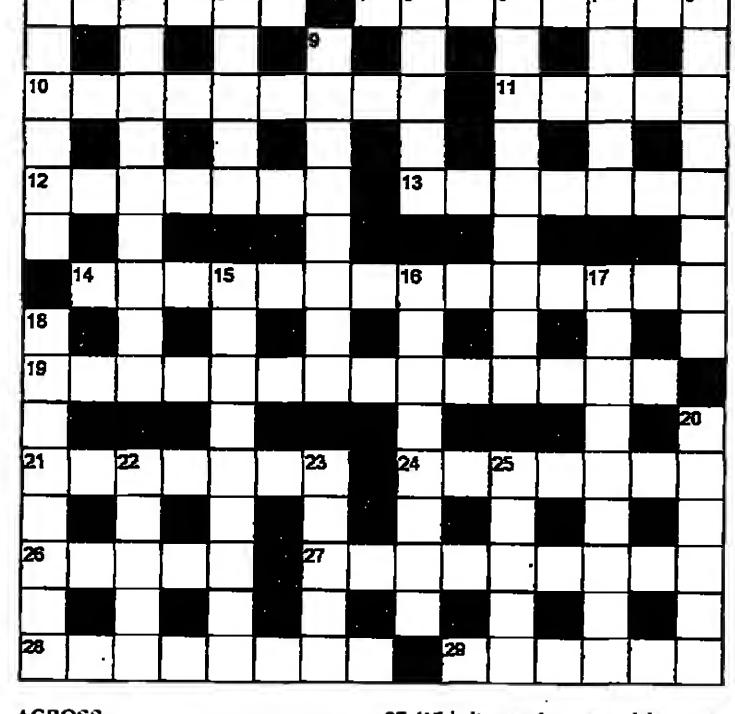
The national tradition, duty even, of using queues as a means of fairly distributing anything from stamps to a glance at celebrity has been wiped out with one stroke of Sophie's wand......Page 18

CHITTARES.

Aileen Plunket, Irish hostess: Admiral Sir William Pillar, Erica O'Donnell, art historian ... Page 21

Escalation of Kosovo conflict: second chamber; equal age of consent; in praise of the National Trust; running the BBC; women in sport: taking liberties with Shakespeare; Times Two Crossword...... Page 19

THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 21,070



ACROSS

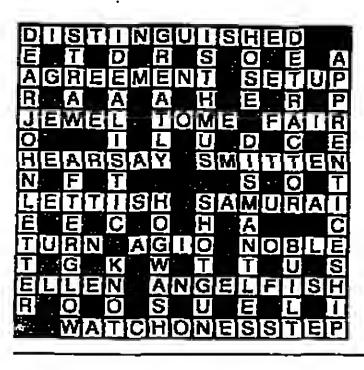
- 1 Cashier to supply statement (6). 4 Teaching head less practised but more to be relied upon (8).
- 10 Graves, possibly, needing this implement for opening (9), 11 Absorbed in college, so to speak
- 12 Regularly takes in vital supplies of popular hard drinks (7).
- wardiy (7). 14 Pioneer reconstructed base after rest (5.3.6). 19 Moving end of scenes after folk

make peace (4.4.6).

13 Puts burden on and moves awk-

- 21 Soldier expressed bitter dissatisfaction (7). 24 Generous settlement for artist in defamation case (7).
- 26 Island goat without cars (5).

Solution to Puzzle No 21,069



- 27 With it one chops a stricken tree 28 Expanding the pupil's research
- into language? Just the reverse 29 Interfere with sound of gong (6).
- DOWN I Swindle bound to include city in
- upset (6).
- 2 Settle with some hesitation on draught animal (9). 3 Rope-maker supplying girl climbing around island (5).
- kept between lines (5). 6 Ruined Roman site yields household artefact (5,4). 7 Fibre running through mistletoe
- 8 Close to fighting here, call on sup-9 Bearing gifts, one hears (8). 15 Goal post, perhaps, I protected as
- defender (9). 16 Radio with frequency for Resistance not in possession of Dutch
- 17 Found to be dangerous as electical apparatus (9). 18 Welcomed motorists in fix (8). 20 A fellow concealing money in niche (6).
- 22 Plane crashed in mountainous country (5). 23 Grow mature in American state prison (5). 25 Splendid book gets enthusiastic
- review (5). Times Two Crossword, page 44

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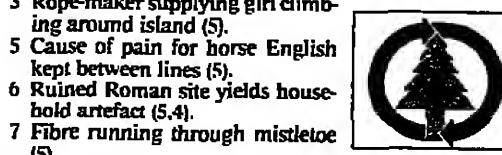
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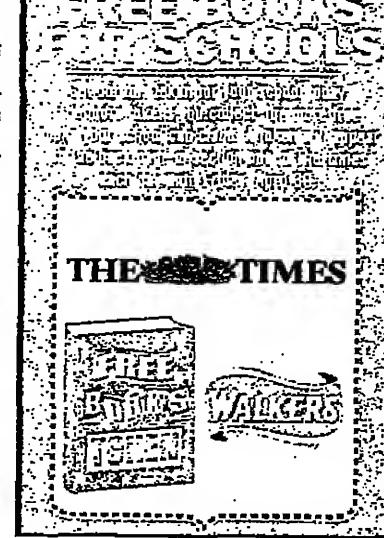
HOURS OF DARKNESS

Sun sets: 7.41 pm Sun rises 6.25 am Moon sets: Moon rises: 9.25 am Last quarter April 9 London 7.41 pm to 6.23 am Bristol 7.51 pm to 6.33 am Edinburgh 8.00 pm to 6.29 am Manchester 7.53 pm to 6.29 am

Penzance 8.01 pm to 6.47 am



NEWSPAPERS SUPPORT RECYCLING Recycled paper made up 46 00% of the raw material for UK newspapers in 1997



is moving into historic Bermondsey in South London

☐ General: much of England and Wales will start cloudy and damp but the rain will clear away to the east by alternoon. That will leave sunshine and showers, the showers heaviest and most frequent in the west as it continues fairly mild. Scotland and Northern Ireland will also be showery, some of the showers heavy and prolonged and merging to give a longer spell of rain, especally in more northern areas. The showers may also be accompanied by thunder. Tonight, Scotland will continue to have showers but these will ease off in the west later in the night. Showers in England and

em kreiand mostly dry with clear spells. ☐ London, SE England, E Anglia, E Midlands, E England: cloudy and wet morning but rain clearing this afternoon to leave sunshine and isolated showers. Moderate southwest wind. Max 17C (63F). Central S England, Channel Islands,

Wales will also tend to die away with North-

SW England, S Wales: early rain will soon clear to leave sunshine and showers. Moderate SW wind. Max 16C (61F). ☐ W Midlands, Central N, NE England: cloudy, wet start but the rain will clear away to leave some sunshine and a few showers. Moderate to fresh SW wind. Max 16C (61F). ☐ N Wales, NW England, Lake District, Isle of Man: early cloud and rain quickly

clearing to leave brief sunny spells and

showers, some of which will be heavy and

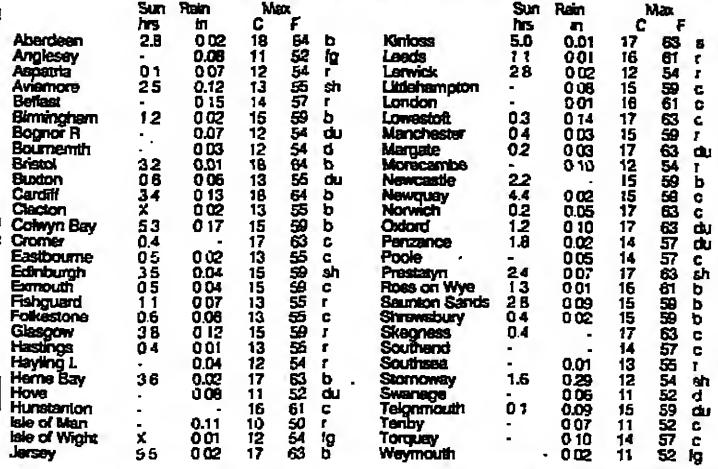
thundery. Moderate to fresh SW wind. Max 15**C** (59F). ☐ Borders, Edinburgh & Dundee, Aberdeen. Moray Firth: early rain in the south will clear but clouding over again this aftermoon with showers and longer spells of rain. Moderate to fresh southwest wind will

veer westerly. Max 14C (57F). ☐ SW, NE, NW Scotland, Glasgow, Cent Highlands, Argyll: brief sunny spells; showers, some heavy and thundary. Longer spell of rain possible this morning. Mod to fresh SW wind will veer W. Max 13C (55F) ☐ Origney, Shetland: a mainly dult day with showery outbreaks of rain, some of these heavy and prolonged. Light to moderate variable wind becoming west to northwesterly. Max 11C (52F).

□ N Ireland: sunny spells and showers, some heavy, thundery and prolonged. Moderate to fresh southwest wind will veer west to northwest. Max 13C (55F). ☐ Republic of Ireland: bright or sunny intervals and showers, some heavy and perhaps thundery. Fresh or strong southwesterly wind. Mex 13C (55F).

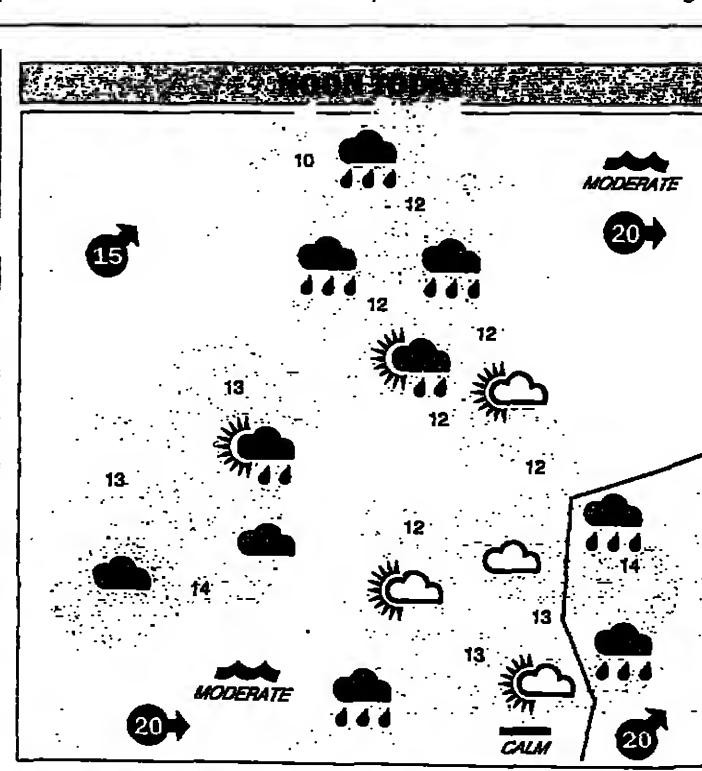
☐ Outlook: showers in the north and east tomorrow will die away in the afternoon, although it will cloud over in Northern Ireland with rain faller on. The rain will slowly spread through the rest of the United Kingdom during Thursday, but it will be easing off as it does so. It will continue to be fairly mild.

24 hvs to 5 pm, bi∞bright, c=cloud, d=drazie, ds=dust storm, du=dufi; f=fair, fg=fog; g=gafes, h∞hali; rerain; she shower, siesleet, se sun, lethunder

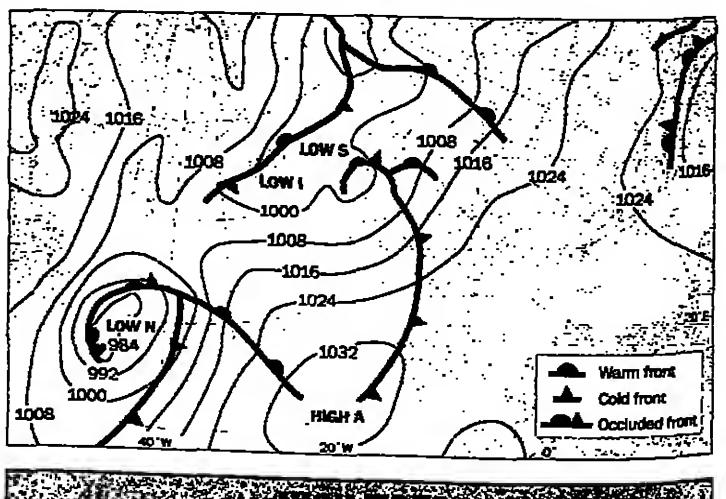


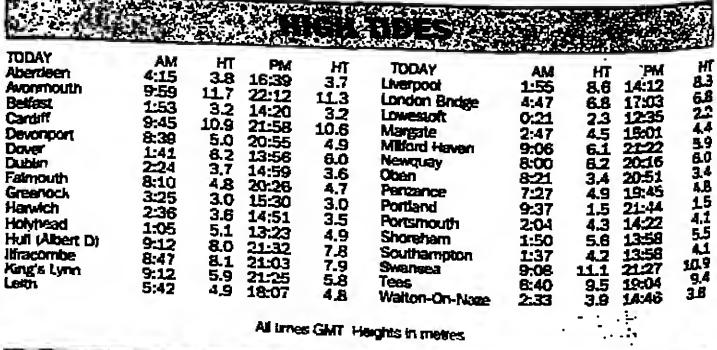
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Temperatures at middey local time Sunday X = not available



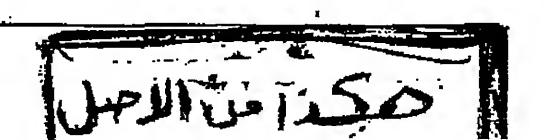
Changes to the chart below from noon: high A will build in situ. Low I will fill and become indistinct. Low N will deepens as it moves lowards the Denmark Strait. Low S will deepen slightly as it drifts across southern Norway





Yesterday: highest day temp: Chivenor (Devon) 18C (64F); lowest day max: St Bees Head (Cumbria) 9C (48F); highest rainfall; Lusta (Isle of Skye) 0.59ins; highest sunshine; Jerse)

(Channel Islands) 5 5hrs.



TUESDAY APRIL 6 1999

Everton's escape route cut off by Carbone

THEY have been playing with fire for so long that Everton must fear that their fingers will get burnt eventually. After 45 consecutive seasons of top-flight football, this could be the year that they go down in

Everton's fourth successive defeat yesterday, greeted by loud and thoroughly deserved derision by their supporters, plunged them into the bottom three of the FA Carling Premiership. On Saturday, they had battled hard if unavailingthe I lyagainst Liverpool: the chancer are that the only Merseyside derby next season will be between these sickly Toffees and Tranmere Rovers.

After a tolerably proficient performance, in Francis Jeffers's twelfth-minute strike represented something of a Goodison Park goal feast, Everton's subsequent decline bore all the hallmarks of a team destined for relegation.

Sheffield Wednesday took control and eventually took all three points, too, courtesy of a couple of defensive howiers that would not have been out of place over at Stanley Park a Sunday morning pub game. Victory ended their own

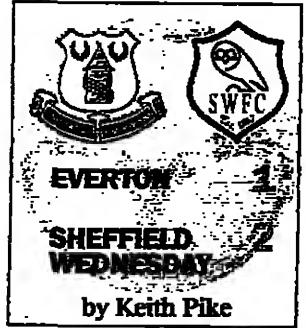
Coventry battle on.... Strart strikes... Results and tables...

run of five consecutive defeats and means that they are probably one more win from safety. But for Everton, the prospects are grim. Four times in the past six seasons, they have flirted with danger and when they trooped, crestfallen, off the pitch to find that Graham Stuart, one of their former players, had scored the goal that gave Charlton Athletic victory away to West Ham Unitand condemned Walter Smith's team to eighteenth position, that dalliance had devel-

oped into a full-blown affair. Everton can still save themselves. Of their six remaining matches, two are at home against their fellow strugglers. Coventry City and Charlton. but the doomsday scenario shared by increasingly distraught supporters has Everton playing Southampton at The Dell on the last Sunday of the season needing to win to survive: Last season, they stayed up on goal difference: this time, that may prove beyond them.

For Smith, after a decade of trophy-hunting with Rangers. this is a new and unpleasant experience. "It was a disappointing result, but even more so when you consider the manner in which we lost it." he said. "We handed Wednesday

Wednesday's equaliser, in the 52nd minute, was a gift



pure and simple: their winner 16 minutes later came with ribbons and bows attached. The guilty men on both occasions were Marco Materazzi and David Unsworth, defenders with a combined transfer fee approaching £6 million. They held their heads in collective shame — and were entitled to for the first goal.

Materazzi's initial half-heart-

ed clearance was fraught with danger and Unsworth compounded the error with an extravagant miskick that presented Benito Carbone with a clear shooting opportunity. The Italian seized on the opening, sending a low, right-foot drive beyond Myhre's right hand and inside the far post.

The roles were reversed for the second goal. Unsworth failed with a routine header. Materazzi made a pig's ear of his attempted back-pass and Carbone stole in grateful and unguarded again.

There was no way back for Everton, who withdrew Materazzi, switched to three at the back and flooded midfield. But their heart as well as their composure had gone and Wednesday coasted through the closing stages with ease.

The first half had been so much more promising. With Campbell a prominent spearhead and Gemmill delivering a series of precise passes, the two newcomers had caught the eye on their home debuts alongside Dacourt in midfield. Everton fully deserved the lead given them by Jeffers, 18. who lobbed the ball calmly into an empty net from 18 yards when Campbell's aerial challenge on Stnicek dislodged the ball from the goalkeeper's Wednesday grasp. It was only Everton's tenth goal in 24 hours of foot-

"We were desperate to win today and in the end I think we deserved it." Danny Wilson, the Wednesday manager, said. "We can't relax just yet, but this has made it a lot easier for us." For Everton and Smith, the agony is destined to continue for some time.

EVERTON (4-4-2): T Myhra — D Weir, C Shori, M Malerazzi (sub: P Degn, 74 min), D Unsworth — S Gemmil, A Grant (sub: M Ball, 74), O Dacourt, N Barmby (sub: SHEFFIELD WEDNESDAY (4-4-2): P Struck - P Atherton, E Thome, J Newsome, A Hinchcliffe — N Alexandersson (sub. P Scott, 79), D Sonner, W Jonk, P Rust — A Booth, B Carbone (sub. R Cresswell, 90).



High flyer: Richard Dunwoody leaps from Yorkshire Edition after breaking the record for career victories. Report, page 29



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Daley rubs salt into grievous wound

Birmingham City1

BY CHRIS MOORE

GOALS from two former Aston Villa players made Birmingham City's first home defeat for five months all the less

palatable yesterday as Watford enhanced their own prospects of making the Nationwide League first division play-offs. On a day when Trevor Francis. the Birmingham manager, was tactically outmanoeuvred by Graham Taylor, his opposite number, the former

England manager's decision to recall Tony Daley and Tommy Mooney, who began their careers across the city at Villa Park, proved to be a masterstroke and helped to produce a | victory that leaves Watford only four points off a place among the top six. Taylor has enjoyed six pro-

motion-winning campaigns during his career, including hauling Watford up from the second division as champions last season, and, on this evidence, they cannot be underestimated during the run-in.

"We've still got it all to do. but if we keep winning, who knows what might still happen for us." Taylor said. "When you get to this stage of the season, the teams in the play-off positions can start to get a bit edgy. Right now, being in a chasing position might suit us better than having to be looking over our shoulder. We've got a massive game coming up next against Bolton at home on Saturday and, if we beat them, we'll be only one point behind and back in business."

Birmingham had been beaten in only one of their previous 17 games, but without Dele Adebola and Paul Furlong, their injured heavyweight strikers, lacked the physical presence to strengthen their challenge for an automatic promotion position.

Daley, who has been playing for his "digs' money" for most of the season, came up trumps in only his sixth start for the club by laying on the opening goal in the 26th minute, the non-stop Mooney heading home his deep cross at the far post.

Mooney repaid the compliment in the 58th minute, providing an inch-perfect cross for Daley to score with a rare header. David Holdsworth cut the deficit with a close-range header in the 87th minute, but it was too little, too late.

BIRMINGHAM CITY (4-4-2); K Poole — J Bass (sub. N Forster, 61mm), D Holdsworth, M Johnson, S Charlton (sub J McCaritry, 61) — B Hughes, G Hyde, M O'Con-nor, M Granger — L Bradbury (sub: H Fonn-con, 69). P Nationu.

WATFORD (4-3-3): A Chambertain — D Bazeley, S Palmer, R Page, P Robinson — A Hazan (sub. M Hyde, 46). R Johnson, F Kennedy — A Daley (sub: A Bormol, 78), T Mooney, A Smart. Reference J kirby

Bradford can thank Windass

DEAN WINDASS was on target as Bradford City kept up the pressure on Inswich Town in the fight for an automatic promotion place from the Nationwide League first division with a 2-0 victory at Gigg Lane (Mel Webb writes).

Windass, signed from Oxford United, scored both Bradford's goals in a scrappy, untidy game that extended Bury's dismal run to a club recordequalling 19 games without a victory.

Beagrie and Sharpe, the Bradford wingers, tormented the Bury defence and Beagne made the first goal in the 28th minute with a cross that Windass headed in at the near post. Beagrie exchanged short passes with Jacobs from a corner two minutes before halftime and Windass again headed home at the near post.

In the second division, Gillingham moved up to fifth place as goals from Ashby and Asaba accounted for Wycombe Wanderers at Adams Park. but Stoke City lost more ground in the contest for a play-off place in a dull I-I draw away to Chesterfield, whereas Wigan Athletic kept their challenge alive by beating Oldham Athletic 2-0 at Springfield

Park. Cardiff City. leaders of the third division, were given an early shock when Alcide gave Hull City the lead at Ninian Park but Nugent equalised with a penalty 16 minutes

from time. Brentford strengthened their grip on the third automatic promotion place with a 3-1 win over Plymouth Argyle. Goals from Evans and Mahon put them ahead, but Marshall pulled one back, before Folan scored a third near the end.

Nationwide League: Carlisle United lose ground in battle for survival

Tate delights Scarborough gallery

Scarborough Carlisle United. By MARTIN WOODS

FRANK MALONEY, the manager of Lennox Lewis, was watching this game alongside Paul Ingle, his featherweight prospect from Scarborough. who challenges Naseem Hamed for the world title on Saturday, Such was the controversial first-half performance of Roger Furnandiz, the referee, that Maloney could have been forgiven for thinking he was back at Madison Square Gardens.

Furnandiz managed to upset both sets of supporters during a frantic opening halfhour by denying the visitors a penalty and failing to dismiss David Bass, of Carlisle United, for a foul on the Jones, the Scarborough forward, in the penalty area. Unlike the Lewis v Evander

Holyfield contest in New York however, the home supporters were not embarrassed by the result and were grateful that Chris Tate, the Scarborough forward, was able to deliver the knockout blows with three well-taken goals. The margin of victory flattered the home team, but such quibbles fail to impress teams fighting for their future in the Nationwide League.



Hoyland, right, of Scarborough, challenges strongly against Brightwell, of Carlisle at the McCain Stadium yesterday

Scarborough, who moved off bottom place in the third division after their 1-1 draw with Hull City on Saturday, were four points behind Carlisle with two games in hand before this game, but, in front of their biggest crowd of the sea-

son, home advantage compounded their nervousness and the visitors had the upper hand before conceding a sloppy goal to after 32 minutes. A ball played in from the left wing confused three Carlisle defenders, allowing Tate to

turn and fire home. Carlisle could have equalised six minutes later, when Baeshaw found Tracey unmarked in the penalty area, but he shot straight at Tony Parks, the Scarborough goalkeeper, from

Carlisle continued to press for the equaliser and, just before half-time, a header from Hopper went narrowly past the post

Richard Knight, the Carlisle goalkeeper. kept his side in the game straight after the break erts and two minutes later the same forward forced Knight to make another good save after being put clear by Atkinson. Carlisle were unable to muster an attack of their own as Scarborough continued to

with a superb save from Rob-

press forward and two further goals from Tate after 61 and 62 minutes settled the game. A superb cross from the left wing by Roberts found Tate. whoheaded powerfully past Knight, then Roberts set up the forward again to shoot home from the edge of the penairy area.

il can't put a price on that victory - the boys were magnificent," Colin Addison, the Scarborough manager, said. "There were a few words said at half-time and the boys came out and did me proud. We deserved the three points."

Tate, who is on contract until the end of the season, said: "It was a battle. We didn't play our best football, but Tony

Parks played brilliantly." Scarborough are beginning to relish their fight for survival. Carlisle had better start learning soon.

SCARBOROUGH (4-4-2) T Parks — G
Can, S Hermison (sub: B Wornall, 49mm), J

Hoyland, G Albrison — N Jones, G Porter. P Allonson, S McAuley — C Tale (sub: A Saville, 85), D Roberts (sub: L Robinson CARLISLE UNITED (4-4-2) R Knight — R Bowman D Brightwell, P Clark (305 G McAindon, 63), D Searle — R Prokas, S Whitehead, R Hopper (sub. G Anthony, 78), R Tracey — P Bagshaw, D Bass. Referee: R Furnandiz.

Crystal Palace Sunderland...

BY ALYSON RUDD

THE sense of impatience was palpable. Sunderland are bound for the FA Carling Pre-miership, they have been for many months, but the day that they can relax with promotion a mathematical certainty was delayed, albeit slightly, by this

After a first half in which Crystal Palace were the more inventive and sprightly team thoroughly deserving their 35th-minute equaliser, Sunderland gave, during the second period, a far better impersona. tion of a side destined for greater things.

That Palace did not capital late was testimony to the team spirit that Steve Coppell has instilled among players who have much to feel dispirited about. With their wallets brimming with 10Us and teammates leaving at an alarming rate to bring the wage bill down, a miserly effort from the home team nught have been expected. Instead, they pulled together and irritated Sunderland with their pace and stamina.

Coppell has not only the administrators to contend with but the fact that two members of his shrinking squad are Serbs. Coppell's original view had been that the distraction was too great to risk playing either Curcic or Petric, but the latter's mother told her son to keep playing. Coppell fell in with her wishes and Petric defended admirably throughout, even surviving a spat with Quinn, during which, according to his manager, "he lost it for a bit".

Sunderland took the lead midway through the first half when Phillips met Johnston's corner kick to score with the simplest of headers. Palace responded with gusto: Fan Zhivi crossed to Thomson, whose shot struck McKenzie. He turned on the loose ball and his effort was parried by Sorensen before being forced over the line by Morrison.

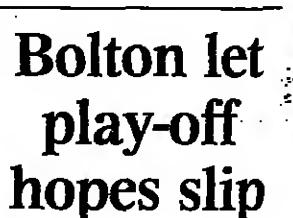
Kevin Miller, the Palace goalkeeper, was faultless in the second half, the pick of a crop of inspired saves coming in the 83rd minute. Clark, who seemed certain to score. instead passed to Johnston, who had time to pick his spot but

found Miller equal to the chal-

One of these clubs has a rosy future, the other faces one too bleak to dwell upon, but? for 90 minutes at least, you? would never have guessed it. CRYSTAL PALACE (3-5-2): K Maler — D Woodey, H Mullins, G Peinc — D Austr, S Thomson, C Fosler, F Zhyr, S Jihar — C Mor-

nson, L McKenzie. SUNDERLAND (4-4-2), T Sorensen — C Makin (sub. D Holloway, 68min), P Butter, A Melville, M Gray — N Summerbee, K Ball, L Clark, A Johnston — N Quenn, K Philips

Referee: A D'Urso



BY BILL EDGAR

THE revolving door that has

taken Bolton Wanderers between the Nationwide League and the FA Carling Premiership seems to be coming off at the hinges. Prime candidates six weeks ago for automatic promotion from the first division, they have declined to the point where even a place in the play-offs may elude them. This defeat at the Reebok Stadium yesterday means

they have won only one of their past nine league games. They were, however, a little unfortunate not to get at least a draw against a Stockport County team that created few chances aside from the two that they converted.

Such was the quality of Bol ton's midfield play that it was a surprise when County took the lead through Tony Ellis in the 27th minute, who put the finishing touches to a pass from Angell. Bolton equalised in the 48th minute when Johansen curled a cross towards Taylor, who hooked the ball home from six yards.

Nash saved weil from Gard ner and a home win seemed to be on the cards, but instead it was Stockport who had the winning hand. With 15 minutes left. Ellis was tackled in the Bolton area and Colin Woodthorpe drove the loose ball into the far corner. BOLTON WANDERERS (4:4-2) S Barks.

— N Cox, M Fish, P Warturst, R Ellot — N
Johansen, C Jensen, P Francisco, P Gardn
er — R Taylor, D Holdsworth (sub: E Good: —

Johnsen, 48mm).
STOCKPORT COUNTY (4-4-2). C Nash—
J Gennon, M Famin, M Michaesh, A Dimend
— T Bennelt, D Smith, C Woodborpe, N
Cooper — B Angell (sub. I Moore, 83), A Electronic Grant Control (Sub. I Moore, 84), A

Preston keeps Manchester threat at bay

raged only sporadically in



Moyes: happy with a point

THERE is no question which

Preston North End1

Manchester City.....1

By STEPHEN WOOD

side would have treasured this stalemate more yesterday. Preston North End and Manchester City fought each other to a standstill and the shared points ensured that Preston were able to keep City's challenge at the top of the Nationwide League second division at arm's length.

test with contrasting form, so much so that City, with four consecutive victories, were beginning to dream of supplanting Preston as favourites for automatic promotion. Indeed. the implications of defeat were serious enough for the blood and thunder of this Lancashire derby to override the obligation for stylish football. As the crowd of 20,857 —

on, so the players got caught

up in a whirlwind that, alas,

Both clubs entered the con-

Preston's biggest at Deepdale any action. in 25 years — roared their men

each penalty box. That did not ruin the spectacle altogether, however. The ferocity that characterised the midfield tussles was compelling — and it nearly got the better of Sean Gregan. Moments before half-time, the Preston captain appeared to elbow Michael Brown after Brown had committed a foul Kevin Lynch. the referee, declined to take

City had begun with a whimper, leaving Steve Basham, the Preston striker, on

Ipswich Town3

Queens Park Rangers......

loan from Southampton, unmarked, and to head past Weaver, the City goalkeeper. Just 58sec had passed on the

The City equaliser, after 22 minutes, owed something to luck. The ball broke outside the area to Brown, whose low shot was deflected in.

There were few further clear-cut chances, so both managers gambled on their reserves. Mark Robins, the former Manchester United striker, came on for his City debut, but he looked woefully

unfit. For Preston, Jonathan Macken. another with United connections, looked more promising. David Moyes, the Preston

manager, said: "City are a big, physical side and we had to match them. We did that and I think we'll settle for a point."

PRESTON NORTH END (4-4-2): D Lucas — G Alexander, M Jackson, C Murdoch, N Clement — P McKenna, M Rankine (sub: M Appleton, 74min), S Gregan, D Eyres — K Nogan (sub. J Macken, 69), S Basham MANCHESTER CITY (4-4-2): N Weaver— L Crooks, A Mornson, T Vaughan, R Edghill — T Cooke, J Poliock (sub: I Bishop, 64), M Brown, K Horlock — S Goater, G Taylor isub M Robins, 57).

Referee: K Lynch.

Osborn keeps Wolves in pack Ipswich show touch of steel

Sheffield United Wolverhampton Wand......1

By a Correspondent

THE destiny of Wolverhampton Wanderers - and what partisan supporters believe to be their rightful place in the FA Carling Premiership remains firmly in their hands after a dramatic finale at Bramail Lane. The future of Colin Lee, their manager, is a

little less clear, though His side has lost just once in 15 games since Boxing Day and, after taking this point from Sheffield United, will surely contest the Nationwide League first division play-offs. Yet, despite this record, the offer of the security provided by

FA Carting Premiership

eludes Lee, whose fate will be decided at the end of the sea-

A 62nd-minute goal from Marcelo, the Brazilian striker, proved to be a false inspiration for Sheffield United's faltering promotion hopes. Marcelo was left with a tap-in from six yards after a run and cross by Lee Morris, the teenage midfield player.

Devlin should have added a second shortly afterwards, but his first touch, like many in the match, lacked composure and the chance was lost. Wolves secured the point

for which they had strived when Corica, a substitute, was fouled by Tebily on the edge of the penalty area with just five minutes remaining. After much debate and construction of the wall, a long-term contract still

Nationwide League

First division

Simon Osborn curled the free kick over it and beyond Alan Kelly, the Sheffield goalkeeper. Earlier, Kelly had made a fine save when Connolly and Robinson combined to put the latter through.

Robert Styles, the referee, booked seven players, five for Sheffield, in a game that lacked genuine passion. In the 86th minute, Rob Kozluk, the Sheffield full back, was sent off for a second bookable offence after he pushed Gilkes.

SHEFFIELD UNITED (4-4-2): A Ketly — R Kozluk, I. Sandlord, O Tebely, W Quinn — P Devlin, J Hurst, C Woodhouse (sub: A Jacobsen, 89min), L Morns (sub S Deny, 86) -Marcelo, A Campbell (sub. P Katchouro,

WOLVERHAMPTON (5-3-2): M Stowell — It Muscet, D Richards, K Curie, N Emblen, M Gillies — C Robinson, S Osborn, S Sedgley — H Flo, D Connolly (sub. S Corica, 82). Referee: R Styles.

Second division

By GORDON HOWARD

AFTER successive disappointments in the play-offs in recent seasons, Ipswich Town confirmed yesterday that they are on course for an automatic return to the FA Carling Premiership with a deserved victory over Queens Park Rangers. Their performance may not

have contained the delights of their six-goal romp at Swindon on Saturday, but it was full of determination and it was their persistence which brought rewards after Rangers had taken an unexpected lead. Rangers, although always

well organised, could have no complaints, even though Ips-

(2) 3 PLYMOUTH (0) 1

wich did make a sloppy start and conceded a goal after only four minutes. Chris Kiwomya, the former Ipswich player, took advantage of some casual defending to glance a header the helpless

If Inswich needed a wake-up call, to wipe out any complacency, this was it and they soon responded with an equaliser, Jim Magilton's deep cross finding David Johnson, who headed his fifteenth goal of the sea-

After their bright start, Rangers appeared content to sit back and suffocate the Ipswich attack and the home side were clearly getting frustrated. Their diligence was rewarded in the 65th minute when James Scowcroft headed in a cross by Mark Venus for his thirteenth

Nationwide Conference

CHELTERIAM (0) 1 KEDORRO(STR (0) 0

promptly made two substitutions, but nine minutes later, Ipswich killed off the contest when Matt Holland struck their third with an angled 20-yard drive from the left of the penalty area. George Kulcsar was cautioned for a clumsy tackle on

goal of the season. Gerry Fran-

cis, the Rangers manager,

Mick Stockwell and Kiwomya's eventful return to East Anglia concluded with his being shown a yellow card for a late tackle on Holland in the final minute.

Scottish League

Third division

IPSWICH TOWN (3-5-2) Fi Wright - J Cundy, A Mowbray, M Venus — F Wilnis, M Stockwell, J Magilton, M Holland, J Clapham — J Scowcrott (sub: R Naylor, 86min), D Johnson (sub M Holster, 88) QUEENS PARK RANGERS (5-3-2); L MB. losko — T Breacker, D Meddix, S Morrow Isub: I Dowle, 68), K Ready (sub: A Linighan, 73), I Barraciough — G Kulcsar, G Peacock, P Murray — L Jeanne, C Kimornya. Referee: W Burns

(1) 6 COWDIETH (0)

YESTERDAY'S RESULTS AND TABLES

Third division

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LEAGUE: Premier division: AFC Wallinglord 2 Harriey Winney 1, Ash 2 Chessington
and Hook 1, Ashlord 1 Bodfort 0; Cobham 5 Westfield 0, Cranleigh 6 Feltham 3, Godalming and Guildford 3 Netherne 1; Raynes Park Vale // Reading 1, Sandhurst 2 Cove 1; Vilang Sports 4 Famham 2, Walton Casuels 2 Chip-Orderd Utd

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Soy 0. Portfield 1 Chichester 1, Whitehawk 0 Salidean 2 Wick 2 Littlehampton 0

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RYMAN LEAGUE: Premier division: Aldershot Town 0 Basingstoke 1 Bitlencay 2 Heybridge Switts 1, Bishop's Stortford 2 Boreham Wood 0: Chesham 1 Aylesbury 0: Gravesend and Northfleel 1 Bromlay 2: Hampton 2 Wallon and Hersham 0, Purfleet 3 Deg and Red 0, Slough 1 Dulwich 0 St Albans 2 Enfield 1, Sutton United 3 Carshalton 0 Leading positions: 1, Sutton Utid 35-74 2 Aylesbury 36-73, 3, Purfleet 37-66, 4, Dag and Red 36-63, 5, Enfield 36-61, 6, St Albans 35-57, First divisions Barton 0 Hischin 0, Bognor Regis 1 Worthing 2 Brainties 0 Canvey Island 2, Cherisey 1 Staines 1; Croydon 2 Leatherhead 0, Oxford City 0 Maidenhead 1; Romford 2 Grays 2; Wealdstone 5 Berkhamsted 2, Whyteleate 1 Molosey 3, Yeading 0 Undoidge 1 Molosey 3. Yeading 0 Unbridge 1

Bolton Wanderers Stockport County.....2

FA Carling Premiership: Two strugglers gain welcome victories in fight to stay in top flight

حكدا من الاصل

Relegation skies start to clear over Coventry

board, which was turning its hands faster than time was passing yesterday — it ran up four hours during the second half - Coventry City have got ahead of themselves. Traditionally, if it is April, the douds of relegation should be hovering over Highfield Road, but they are being dispersed unusually early. Blue skies are accompanying the Sky Blues into the last six weeks of the 2250U

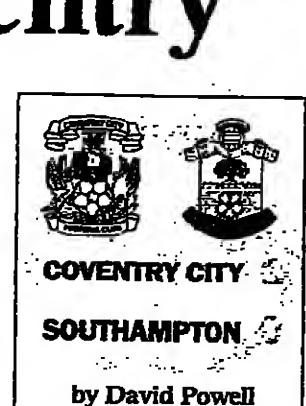
65th-minute goal George Boateng settled this tense and sometimes scrappy Carling Premiership match against a team that now appears to have one foot in the Nationwide League. If there was to be a goal, it was fair, on the balance of chances, that it should be scored by Cov-

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entry. A right-wing cross from Gary Breen found Trond Soltvedt unmarked and the Norwegian's header forced a fine save out of Neil Moss, the Southampton reserve goalkeeper, who was standing in for the injured Paul Jones. Boateng, though, was first to the loose ball.

Coventry thus took their thirteenth point from their past six games to move four places dear of the relegation zone. Not that Gordon Strachan, the Coventry manager, is making assumptions about being back for another Premiership sea-: son come August. "Safe now, Gordon?" he was asked. : "Have you ever been to Coven-

try?" his inquisitor was asked. Victory here would have taken Southampton out of the bottom three for the first time



this season and, with hindsight, David Jones, their manager, probably wishes he had played Matthew Le Tissier from the start, rather than from the beginning of the second half. The Coventry goal had one narrow escape in the first half, a shot from James Beattie being deflected for a corner, but not until Le Tissier came on did the danger light change from amber to red.

Le Tissier replaced Wayne Bridge wide on the left and, within three minutes of appearing, produced a telling cross from which Beattie directed a header low to Magnus Hedman's right. The Coventry goalkeeper responded with an athletic, one-handed save. Twice in three minutes in the final quarter, as Southampton searched for an equaliser. Le Tissier tested the nerves of the Coventry faith-

From a cross by Hassan Kachloul, Le Tissier headed over. Then Hedman went down smartly to his left to keep out a volley from the Southampton man. Asked why Le Tissier, returning from suspension, had not played the 90 minutes, Jones said: "Because the lads who played on Saturday performed well and I lost Ripley and Os-



Sitting target: Boateng takes a relaxed view after scoring the winning goal for Coventry City at Highfield Road

tenstad, so it was a case of not making too many changes." Perhaps Jones had forgotten that it was Le Tissier who had made the difference in the 2-1 home victory over Coventry back in October. On that occa-

sion, he made one and scored

The Bank Holiday weekend served only to underline the contrast in Southampton's form at home and away. They drew with Arsenal at The Dell on Saturday, but yesterday suffered their twelfth defeat in 16 Premiership away fixtures.

"If I could put my finger on the

reason why, I would have done so a long time ago," Jones said. He blamed a combination of

his players, for "switching off" at certain times, and Uriah Rennie, the referee. "He makes up his own rules as he goes along," Jones said. "He has given out bookings and silly free kicks." Though critical of his team's lackadaisical approach to the first half. Jones added: "In the second half, we had a go."

Coventry were also vexed by Rennie, but at least their supporters had their moment of

fun. After booking Boateng for kicking the ball away, the third Coventry player to have his name taken, Rennie dropped his collection of cards on the pitch.

For Coventry, Soltvedt came in for the injured Steve Froggatt and Strachan felt that he had a "fantastic" game. Breen, on the other hand, had the kind of match to forget. He had a header cleared off the line by David Hughes, fired one over and, presented by Darren Huckerby with a perfect cross to his feet, put his shot wide.

troops, as all good generals do:

on the other, trying to do what

is right, something that will

bring some sanity back to an

increasingly perplexing situa-

Liverpool are holding a

board meeting today, during

which it is likely that Fowler's

latest escapade will be dis-

cussed. Fowler played lethargi-

cally and was replaced in the

79th minute. He was not

The lion's share of chances fell to Coventry. Boateng missed the target, with Moss beaten, after Ken Monkou's half-clearance, Monkou had to be rescued by Moss when his back-header angled towards goal and the goalkeeper also saved well from a firm drive by Noel Whelan.

COVENTRY CITY (4-4-2): M Hedman — G Breen, P Williams, R Shaw, D Burrows — G Boateng, G McAlfister, T Sollvedt, P Teller — N Whelen, D Huckerby (sub: S Gloecchi-

SOUTHAMPTON (4-4-2): N Moss — J Dodd, K Monkou, C Lundekvern, P Colleter — S Hilley, D Hughes, C Mereden, W Bridge (sub: M Le Tissier, 46) — J Beattle (sub: M Pahars, 70), M Hughes (sub: H Kachloul, 77) Referee: U Rennie

ways. Carragher should have

added to the tally but headed

over the crossbar after Mc-

Manaman, who is bound for

Real Madrid and looking de-

mob happy aiready, had

Forest are at least going

down fighting. Freedman bun-

dled in an equaliser from a

throw by Rogers and, after

Owen had restored Liver-

pool's lead with his 22nd goal

of the season, Van Hooijdonk

levelled again in the last

minute from a trademark free

offers little to fear, a winter's

much gruff as growled. "I'm

not bothered about that," the

flicked on a corner by Berger.

moves, was having an off-day.

Just when it seemed that logic would be defied and a ridiculously open game would finish goalless, Rufus headed on a free kick by Mills, Minto and Hislop hesitated and Stuart, on his second appearance for the club, nipped in behind

"We never felt it was going to come," Alan Curbishley, the Charlton manager, said. "He [Stuart] had missed a glorious chance and was very upset

Barnes, who would probably

Stuart gives Charlton lift towards security

GRAHAM STUART knows all about scoring important goals. His late strike against Wimbledon at Goodison Park on the last day of the 1993-94 season kept Everton in the top flight. If his 75th-minute win-ner at Upton Park yesterday proves to have helped do the same for Charlton Athletic. the £1 million that they paid Sheffield United for him just before the transfer deadline could prove one of the best investments of recent seasons.

in truth, Stuart owed his new employers a goal. In a game of squandered chances, he had been guilty of the biggest howler, powder-puffing Mark Bowen's low cross into the hands of Shaka Hislop in the 43rd minute with the goal at his mercy.

By then. Charlton had lost John Robinson, carried off with a leg injury, and were to see Sasa Ilic, their goalkeeper, taken away on a stretcher with head and knee injuries after a collision with Marc Keller. The West Ham man had followed a high parry by Ilic of a shot by Frank Lampard into the net. Charlton's relief when Steve Dunn, the referee, spotted an upraised flag was short-lived as the extent of Ilic's difficulties became clear. Both Charlton players were taken to hospital for X-rays, but neither is thought to have suffered lasting damage.

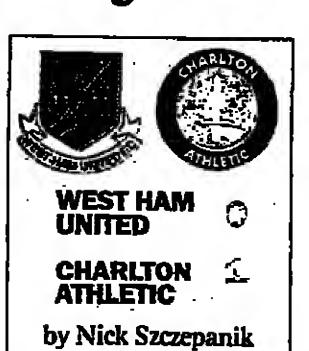
Apart from a wobble from Petterson, the replacement goalkeeper, soon after halftime, when Pearce headed past him only for Danny Mills to clear the danger, Charlton did not seem to be adversely affected by the departures and continued to attack, Martin Pringle, Bowen and Andy Hunt all forcing excellent saves from Hislop.

However, it was anything but one-way traffic. West Ham, although missing the creativity of Eyal Berkovic until his late appearance as a substitute, nevertheless threatened whenever Paolo Di Canio was given time to play a selection of exquisitely weighted passes: unfortunately. Paul Kitson, who seemed to be on the end of most of these

them to head into the empty

with himself at half-time." An alleged post-match altercation in the tunnel involving Neil Ruddock and Carl Tiler could feature in the referee's report, but of more interest was the performance of John

are exposed by Ricard



not have played his first full 90 minutes for Charlton (nearer 100, as it turned out) if two substitutes had not been used before half-time. He finished limping, but had shown rare composure before the legs finally gave up.

Harry Redknapp, the West Ham manager, who has seen Charlton beat his team twice this season, said: "They gave it a go. I've said from day one that they wouldn't go down."

Charlton's win, their first in five games, took them up three places to sixteenth, two positions above the relegation zone, but they have a tough programme to come, including visits from Leeds United and Tottenham Hotspur, and



Stuart vital goal

fixtures against Everton and Blackburn, teams also threatenened by relegation, so Curbishley is not getting carried

"There's a long way to go for us," he said. "I felt on Saturday against Chelsea it was a bit passionless for a local derby and we gave them too much respect. Today was a gutsy. full-of-pride perform-

Part of Curbishley's plan to rouse those dormant emotions involved a pre-match meeting at The Valley, where he asked his players if they wanted to continue playing in front of the full houses they have drawn to what is now an impressive stadium. They will continue to do so only if they stay in the FA Carling Premiership and yesterday they took a big step towards achieving that objective.

WEST HAM UNITED (4-4-2): S Histor — S Lomas, I Peace, N Ruddock, S Minto — 7 Sinclair, F Lamperd, M-V Foe, M keller — P Kitson (sub E Berkovic, 78min), P Di Cenio CHARLTON ATHLETIC (4-4-2) S tic (sub A Petterson, 45) — D Mils, R Rutus, C Tiler C Powelf — J Robinson (sub. M Bowen, 40), M Kinsella, J Barnes, G Stuart — A Hunt (sub: K.Jones, 82), M.Pringle References S.Dunn.

Dire Liverpool sink to new depths at Forest had tapped a free kick sidedefending



Owen: 22nd goal this season was not enough for victory

LIVERPOOL and Europe go hand in hand, a marriage not of convenience but of necessity. So frequently have they enriched the three continental competitions down the years; so many memorable matches. Only three times in the past 35 seasons have Liverpool failed to qualify for Europe.

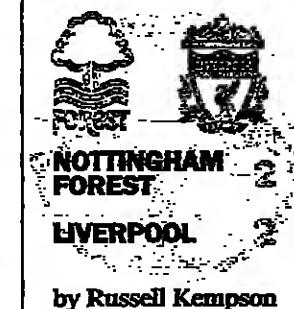
Make that four in 36. Liverpool will not grace the Nou Camp or San Siro next season unless Uefa, the sport's European governing body, changes its mind and allows the fifthplaced club in the FA Carling Premiership to sneak in via the back door. It is the most that Gerard Houllier, the Liverpool manager, and his pampered players can hope for. Statistically, they are not

good enough. They have long been removed from contention in the domestic cups and are

destined to finish well behind Manchester United and Arsenal. No greater was their collective ineffectiveness, their paucity of ideas, illustrated than in the shabby draw against Nottingham Forest at the City ground yesterday.

It is mentally, though - perhaps even morally - where Liverpool have been dragged into the depths. Wearing the red shirt with pride now appears to be passé: inspiration and motivation has disappeared under a welter of inflated pay packets and egos.

Robbie Fowler, the England striker, has done more than most to bring disrepute on himself, his team-mates and all those who live and breathe Anfield. First, during the game against Chelsea in February, he questioned the sexuality of Graeme Le Saux; then,



during the game against Everton on Saturday, he mimicked the actions of a drug-taker as he celebrated a goal. When a Football Association commission meets on Friday to decide what action to take on the first offence, they should perhaps consider the second, too. Houllier, a decent man, stands amid the mess — on the

alone. Apart from Redknapp in midfield, most of the Liver-

ous 25-vard drive after Ince

pool side appeared ready for the end of the season. Forest are doomed to return to the Nationwide League first division and, had Liverpool deigned to shake a leg, would have had their fate hastened. Redknapp enlivened a dreadful first half with a glori-

kick, lashed in from 20 yards. NOTTINGHAM FOREST (4-4-2): M Crossley — M Louis-Jean (sub: N Shipperley, 89min), R Gough, C Edwards, T Bonslair — P van Hoogdonk, A Johnson, C Palmer, A Rogers — D Freedman (sub: B Allou, 78), M LIVERPOOL (4-4-2): D James — R Song, J Carragher, S Staunton, D Matteo — S Mc-Manaman (sub. K Riedle, 67), Pince, J Red-knapp, P Berger — M Owen, R Fowler (sub: S Gerrard, 67).

Bergkamp returns to aid Arsenal in title pursuit

ARSENAL and Blackburn Rovers may be driven by opposite ambitions as the FA Carling Premiership season approaches its denouement, but the objective for each side will be similar when they meet at Highbury tonight Theoretically, this should

be the time of year when the gulf between those contending for championships and others toiling to avoid relegation should be seen most vividly out it ain't necessarily so.

For example, Blackburn go to North London bolstered by a record that has seen them undefeated at Highbury for the past five years. The past should have no relevance as to what might happen in the present, but footballers are superstitious folk and, after all, Blackburn need every small advantage that they can lay their hands on.

Arsenal are in the fortunate position of not usually needing anything as ephemeral as mere luck — who needs luck when you have a first team squad like theirs? Even so. they will be hoping that the gulf between them and their opponents will be widened by the return to their ranks of the

alismanic Dennis Bergkamp. He missed Arsenal's disappointing goalless draw against Southampton on Saturday but is expected to have BY MEL WEBB

recovered from a stomach virus sufficiently to take his place in Arsenai's starting Arsenal's need for points is

no less urgent than Blackburn's. Three points against Brian Kidd's team of high-investment strugglers will keep them in touch with Manchester United - none would almost certainly mean that they can forget such exotica as League and Cup doubles for another year.

Arsene Wenger, the Arsenal manager, knows that the apparent gulf between his side and Kidd's will be narrowed when the action gets under way. "It's a very important game for us to win, but every game at home will be crucial between now and the end of the season," he said.

"We have the determination and desire to do it, but we know that Blackburn will fight hard. Manchester United, Chelsea and Leeds will all come against the same problem before the race is over."

Wenger has a few injury problems. Martin Keown had to go off with an ankle strain at The Dell and Marc Overmars has been suffering from infected blisters on his feet. Both, plus Bergkamp, were back in training yesterday,

but Emanuel Petit is still suspended and Remi Garde and Stephen Hughes, possible replacements Frenchman, are still recover-

> ing from injuries. If Bergkamp plays, he could find himself being marked by Lee Carsley, a recent £3.3 million signing from Derby County. The rugged midfield player has had an ankle injury, but might make his first full appearance after coming off the substitutes' bench against Middlesbrough on Saturday.

Leicester City go into their match against Aston Villa at Filbert Street tonight with Martin O'Neill, their manager, insisting that his side still has a chance of winning a place in Europe.

Leciester are thirteenth in the table, but O'Neill believes that victory against Villa will keep them firmly in the hunt for a place in the Uefa Cup. O'Neill's main injuries are centred upon Muzzy izzet, who has a pulled hamstring. Steve Walsh, who has an ankle injury, and Gerry Taggart, who is recovering from

One Villa player is assured of a warm reception from the Leicester crowd. Julian Joachim left Leicester for Villa three years ago, still lives in the town and has a half-share in a local Chinese restaurant.

Ferguson has full | Wimbledon's weaknesses squad for Juventus

By Our Sports Staff

THE rapier qualities of Ryan Giggs and the more rumbustious talents of Jaap Stam will both be available to Manchester United when they face Juventus in their European Cup semi-final first leg at Old Trafford tomorrow.

The pair were declared fit by Alex Ferguson, the United manager, after they trained with the rest of the squad yesterday. Both sat out the 1-1 draw at Wimbledon on Saturday, Stam nursing an ankle injury and Giggs suffering from a hamstring complaint. Their return means that Ferguson will have a full-strength squad to choose from.

United are in excellent shape going into their biggest week of the season so far. Ferguson's treble-chasers remain four points clear at the top of the FA Carling Premiership and on Sunday there is the FA Cup semi-final against Arsenal at Villa Park. Ferguson is confident that

his players will once again rise to the challenge. "What helps, of course, is that we've got a good, strong squad. We have not had a long injury list and pray to the Lord and touch wood we hope it remains that way," he said. "The spirit in the camp is great and we're all looking forward to this week."

In particular, Ferguson feels that his side have taken great heart from their quarterfinal win over Internazionale: think this team is improving and I think beating Inter Milan did help them," he said. "That brought them on a great stride and now it's just a matter of them being able to express themselves and make sure their concentration is

While all is sweetness and light in the United camp, all is not well with Juventus. The Serie A side, who have appeared in the past three European Cup finals, have stumbled through to the semi-finals, winning just two of their past eight games.

for the Italian championship and although Carlo Ancelotti. the coach, has improved the fortunes of the club during his two months in charge, they lost 1-0 away to Empoli, who are at the bottom of the Serie

watched the game and the Manchester United boss is not reading too much into that result.

out on Saturday and we are

preparing for a hard game."

recognised route. Middlesbrough performed as if the Uefa Cup remained a realistic opportunity; Wimbledon displayed a lifeless dread. On the evidence of yester-

They are adrift in the race day's equivalent to a friendly fixture, Middlesbrough will be better equipped to dredge the most from the tatters of so many wrecked holiday plans. In Keith O'Neill and Hamilton Ricard, a nascent attacking partnership is taking A table, on Saturday. shape and now that the FA Carling Premiership table Ferguson's brother, Martin,

weight has been lifted from their shoulders. Gripes remain, however. "It will be a different team Bryan Robson's reaction when the prospect of a working sumaltogether on Wednesday," he mer was mentioned was not so said. "They had five players

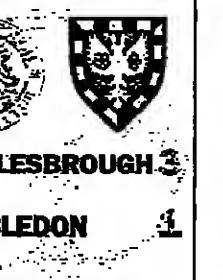
THEY call it the comfort zone, but Wimbledon wore the pained expression of men pricked by a thousand pins. Relative safety is Middlesbrough's preserve and yet they play with a desperate hunger. Entering the Inter-Toto Cup

MIDDLESBROUGH 🕃 has met with a conflicting response; lunatic alarm and mis-WIMBLEDON erable apathy. The guilty finger-prints of fallibility are everywhere, of by George Caulkin course, for both these clubs have harboured fleeting ambitions of qualifying for Europe-Middlesbrough manager said. "I'm only interested in us finan competition via a more

> idea does not meet with his whole-hearted enthusiasm? He was a touch more content on the subject of the game, describing the opening half as "one of our better 45 minutes", but that paid scant regard to Wimbledon's inade-

> ness," David Kemp, the Wimbledon caretaker manager, said. "I've got no grouse with the players in terms of their effort, but we can't start performing at half past three."

twice foiled their designs on silverware two months ago, Wimbledon's season has been abandoned in the manner of rats and sinking ships. Collectively, they began the match as



ishing as high as we can in the

league." Can it be assumed the

"You need a mental tough-

Since Tottenham Hotspur

if already contemplating a fortnight in Benidorm. Individually, Neil Sullivan appeared to have begun his journey. For both of Ricard's goals, the positional sense of the Scotland goalkeeper was suspect. The first, after barely 30 seconds, was to effectively decide

the result in Middlesbrough's favour. A purposeful kick from Mark Schwarzer was flicked on by Andy Townsend and Ricard hooked his shot above Sullivan's prone form. Set-pieces and long-balls: the manner of Wimbledon's collapse was ironic. Ricard's

chip in the 28th minute, racing on to a forward punt by Colin Cooper, took the Colombia forward's seasonal tally to 17, while there could be little excuse for the freedom that Gianluca Festa enjoyed to stoop and head home Townsend's corner at the far post.

Carl Cort, the Wimbledon substitute, summoned a lusty volley from a cross by Ceri Hughes, but it was a token gesture and never amounted to anything approaching a comeback.

MIDDLESBROUGH (3-5-2): M Schwerzer — C Cooper, G Palicier, G Festa — R Stockdale (sub. S Vickers, 84min), R Mustoe, P Gascogne, A Townsend, D Gordon — H Ricard, K O'Neil (sub N Maddison, 54)

WanBLEDON (4-4-2) N Surivan — N Ardley (Sub: M Hughes, 83), C Perry, D Blackwell, B Thatcher — G Amsworth (Sub: A Roberts, 45), J Euell, R Earle, C Hughes — 3 Harrison (sub C Corr, 66), M Gavie Referee: P Durkin

By PETER WILSON

overrun in the second half. This was our third match in cight days and that was signifi-cant." Matthew Ellion, the Bradford coach, said. 'They were magnificent in the second half and we could not com-

Things had started brightly for Bradford, who went ahead with a try by Bernard Dwyer in the fifth minute, and the early exchanges offered little hint of the points landslide that was to follow. Two goals by Martyn brought St Helens their first points, but the Bradford defence held firm until the 24th minute, when Fereti Tuilagi scored his first try for St Helens. Then two tries in a fourminute spell shortly before half-time signalled St Helens' growing domination — Sullivan's first in the 34th minute was followed by another by Scunthorpe, the St Helens cap-

Tiredness took over in the second half for Bradford as first Tony Stewart and then Martyn added tries to the mounting St Helens total. It was not until the game was well and truly lost that Neil Harmon crossed for Bradford's consolation second try.

There was no time to enjoy that before Tim Jonkers, a 17-year-old schoolboy, added his name to the St Helens list of tryscorers. Sullivan completed his hat-trick with a spectacular 70-yard solo run and then went over after a pass from Long shortly before the end. SCORERS: St Helens: Tries: Sullivan (3). Slearn (2). Turasii Manyn Scumhorpe Jonkers Goals: Manyn (11) Bradford: Tries: Dwysr, Harmon Grais: Deacon (3) ST HELENS: Paicheson, F Tuilagi, A Stew-ari, F Iro A Sullivan, T Martyn, S Long, J O'Neill F Cunningham P Davidson A Pere-lini, S Nickle P Scullhorpe Substitutes: C Smith, T Jonkers M Edmondson, P

BRADFORD BULLS: L Pryce, N McAvoy, S Navior, D Peacock, N Zish, R Paul, P Dea-con, B McDermoit, J Lowes, S Fickton, L Radford, B Dwycr, M Forshaw Substitutes: 5 McNamara, N Harmon, W. Referee: R Smith (Capitelord)

RUGBY LEAGUE: LONDON GIVEN A STERN WARNING IN ONE-SIDED DRESS-REHEARSAL FOR CHALLENGE CUP FINAL

Rhinos display resilient quality

BY CHRISTOPHER IRVINE

THERE was an element of shadow-boxing at Headingley yesterday about the dress-re-hearsal for the Silk Cut Challenge Cup final next month. No matter that Leeds Rhinos remembered their lines and blew away their Wembley opponents, this was a disappointing affair in the JJB Super League.
As Graham Murray, the

Leeds coach, observed after-wards: 'Two games in five days, that's the problem. Last Thursday against Bradford was a quality game, but you can't back up the Monday af-

Nor was Murray referring solely to the lack of quality on view. Clearly angry, he said that the imposition this season of a 30-match league programme and the re-introduction of midweek fixtures means that players are more likely to suffer injuries on the

At least Murray can draw some consolation that it is the same for everybody. For example, it is London's misfortune to have to meet S1 Helens, the league leaders, on Friday, but, as Dan Stains, their coach. said: "The programme was in front of us from the start and it's up to everyone to adapt."

With both sides playing for a third time in less than ten days, intensity was an inevitable casualty and the encounter was an

Hull Sharks21

Sheffield Eagles.....23

By A CORRESPONDENT

IT WAS dejd vu for David

Lloyd, the Hull Sharks owner,

at The Boulevard yesterday.

Just 16 hours after his Davis

Cup side had lost to the United

States, his JJB Super League

team went down to the last

kick of a knife-edge encounter

with the Sheffield Eagles.



Cummins scores one of the tries that gave Leeds a convincing win over London in their cup final rehearsal yesterday

Lloyd's bubble bursts again Forster try saves Warrington

unreliable guide to the cup final on May 1. With six players missing, London were left to count the cost of further injuries to Salter, Retchless and Air, the scrum half replacement for Shaun Edwards, who suffered a nasty cut near his eye. Stains confirmed that Ed-

but Mark Aston, who had hit

the uprights with two of his

five previous attempts, was on

target to thwart a courageous

20 minutes — when a ragtag

Hull, minus nine first-choice

players, were still getting to

know one another - Sheffield

found the going increasingly

difficult and were relieved to

have established an 8-0 lead

with a try from Bright Sodje

It was a 50-metre try by Lo-

and two goals from Aston.

Indeed, apart from the first

effort from Hull.

wards had broken his thumb and doctors had advised that he would be out for between eight and ten weeks.

After they led 12-10 at halftime, the Broncos' 100 per cent record in the league and cup this season was overwhelmingly ended. They sustained 32

when a superb half-break by

Steve Barrow gave Gary Lest-

Lester should have made an-

other try for Craig Murdoch.

but he failed to get past Dave

Watson and although Gra-

ham Hallas powered his way

through and both Prescott and

Rob Roberts kicked crucial

goals, the Thorman-Lovell

SCORERS: Hull Sharks: Tries: Campoel, Lester Hallas Goals: Prescoti (4) Dropped goal: Roberts Sheffleid Eagles: Tries: Sodje (2), Lovel! (2) Goals: Asion

HULL SHARKS: S Proscott; R Notan, L Campbell, G Hallas, J Smith, G Lesler, C Murdoch, S Craven, M Hall, A Ireland, J Leatham, M Smith, R Roberts, Substitutes:

R Wilson, S Barrow, A Jackson, J Windley
SHEFFIELD EAGLES: D Walson, K Lovell,
D Powell, K Sentor, B Sodje, M Pearson, M
Aston, S Molloy, J Lawless, D Laughton, D
Shaw, D Turner, J Hardy, Subattitutes: M
Jackson, S Baldwin, R Wright, C Thorman
Reference R Controlly (Winger)

combination won the day.

(3) Dropped goal: Asion

Referee: R Connolly (Wigan)

White: Viktor Korchnoi

Grunfeld Defence

Nb6

N6d7

Nxc5

Black: Boris Spassky

St Petersburg 1999

Nc3

cxd5

Bd2

B14

9 dxc5

Bb5

10 Rc1

er a clear run-in.

points without replay, as Leeds recovered from a painfully slow beginning. Some of Rhinos' tackling early on was apologetic, as Millard crashed in beneath the posts and Air then ran round the back of the scrum and released Hammond. but wherever lestyn

Warrington Wolves23

Gateshead Thunder......18

By MARTIN RICHARDS

MARK FORSTER, the veter-

an Warrington Wolves wing,

preserved his side's 100 per

cent start to the season with

the last thrust of an enthral-

ling finale at Wilderspool.

Gateshead Thunder were en-

tertaining hopes of claiming

their first significant scalp

when Toa Kohe-Love, the

Warrington centre, broke

from his 20-metre line. Alan

Hunte was in support to send

Forster over in the dying sec-

One had to feel sorry for

Gateshead, who were on the

onds.

Harris was, trouble for London was never far away. The stand-off half was the architect of both the Rhinos' tries before half-time, the first when he spun through 360 degrees and got his pass out to Lawford. The timing of his pass to set

in motion the 100th career try

receiving end of a 19-4 penalty

count by Steve Nicholson, the

referee. When a try for Luke

Felsch on 57 minutes, im-

proved by Ian Herron's third

goal out Gateshead 18-8

ahead. Warrington were in

deep trouble and few would

have put money on their

chances of staging a come-

However, they picked up

the tempo and, three minutes

later, John Duffy and Kohe-

Love combined to put Jason

Roach over for his second try.

It proved to be the turning

Lee Briers, the Warrington

scrum half, missed the kick,

but added a 63rd-minute pen-

alty after Danny Lee, of Gates-

head, was sent to the sin-bin.

JJB Super League newcomers staged a revival in the secplayers were not enough. Tries in the last 15 minutes were there to be scored and Leeds

by Cummins on the left wing

also triggered an upping in the Leeds tempo, which a desper-ately tired London found it im-

possible to handle. Harris was

again the provider of tries, by Farrell and Golden, within

eight minutes of the resump-

tion. As the heavier Leeds for-

wards got to work. McDermott

deserved a try, but was called

back for a forward pass.
Stains said that while boxers

got several months between

bouts, days for rugby league

Denis Betts celebrated his re-

turn after seven months out

with a knee injury by scoring his hundredth try for Wigan

Warriors just 58sec into their 52-22 victory over Wakefield Trinity Wilcats at Belle Vue.

Wigan led 34-0 before the

obliged as Rivett scampered

clear from half way. Harris

strolled over and Lawford add-

ed his second. SCORERS: Leeds Rhinos: Tries: Law-ford (2), Cummuns, Famell, Golden Rivett Goals: Harris (5) London Broncos: Tries: Miland, Hammond Goals Walton (2) LEEDS RHINOS: M Si Hraze P Sierkog, M Golden, B Godden, F Cummins, I Harris, D Lawford, M Masella, L Jackson, D Fleary, A Morley, A Fanell, N Sinfield, Substitutes: L Rivett, B McDermon, M Gienville, J Maihiou LONDON BRONCOS: T Tollell, & Walton G Flemmo, J Timu, M Olfish & Hammond, G Art. S Reichless D Callavay I/I Salter A Sebold, S.Milard, M. Toshart. Substitutes: C Ryan, D Parers, A Spencer, S Hughes

Briers took control and his

high kick found Hunte, who

scored with 13 minutes re-

maining to level the scores.

Briers could not add the goal.

but he put Warrington in

front with a 35-yard drop goal.

Gateshead tried everything in

a furious late onslaught and

had a try disallowed. It was

SCORERS: Warrington Wolves: Tries: Roach (2), Wainwighl, Hunte, Forsier Goals: Briers. Dropped goal: Briers

Gateshead Thunder: Tries: Daylight, Maiden, Felsch, Goals: Herron (3)
WARRENGTON WOLVES: L. Penny, J. Roach, A. Hunte, T. Koho-Love, M. Forster, J. Duffy, L. Bhers: M. Hilton, D. Farrar, D. Nulley, S. McCuma, I. Finott, M. Wamwright, Substitutes: D. Hanger, G. Chombers, S. Gilbes, D. Buerby.

GATESHEAD THUNDER: B SATTRUI,

Referee: S Nicholson (Whitehaven).

not to be their day.

Referee: J Connotly (Wigan)

CRICKET Hooper

fails to deliver on promise yet again

> FROM PAT GIBSON IN ANTIGUA

CARL HOOPER, the great enigma of West Indies cricket, let the side down again yesterday. They were looking for something special from him to make sure that Brian Lara's stupendous efforts are rewarded with the Frank Worrell Trophy, but they were bitterly disappointed once niore as he threw his wicket away in a moment

aberration. Hooper determined enough the day before, reviving memories his match-winning 92 not out against England in Trinidad last year by making a stabilizing, unbeaten 40...to take West Indies to 197 for six. l06 runs behind Australia's first-innings total in the

decisive final Test. He had scored only seven more, however, when he paddled Stuart MacGill's googly down to fine leg, took on Glenn McGrath's arm when the fast bowler already had the ball in his hand in a desperate attempt to keep the strike. and was run out by a yard.

It had been asking a lot of Huoper to get West Indies close to the Australia total. since they had already lost Perry and Ambrose in the first four overs of the day. Howeyer, his dismissal was somehow typical of one of the most in gifted batsmen in the world, whose average of 34 after 80 12-Tests is a travesty.

Instead, it was McGrath. second only to Lara as the dominant force in this engrossing series, who improved Australia's chances of levelling it and retaining the trophy with

Scoreboard

another ruthless demonstration of the class, character and sustained aggression that make him the bowler he is. He had damaged his foot

kicking an advertising hoard-Herron, D Maiden, C Simon, M Daylight, W Robinson, W Peters, D Lee, k Walters, L Fetsch, B Green, A Hick, S Allwood, Substiing in his frustration at not getting his just deserts the tutes: C Wilson, T Grmaldi, S Collins, R Allprevious night, but the addition of injury to insult only spurred him on to greater efforts and in his second over he

> pluck out Perry's off stump. Ambrose promptly hoisted MacGill to long-on, where Ricky Ponting held a welljudged catch. Corey Collymore showed his competitive spirit with one or two defiant blows, but Hooper's error of judgment exposed Courtney Walsh to McGrath with only too predictable consequences. He had given his side the

produced a classical inswinger

of almost yorker length to

lead of 81, which ought to be decisive on a pitch that is beginning to bounce unpredictably. but Australia did not need reminding that they had a lead of 161 in Burbados and still could not stop Lara from beating them.

They have not made more than 200 in the second innings in four of their past five Tests so there was understandable caution from Michael Slater and Greg Blewett as the old warriors, Walsh and Ambrose, geared themselves up for one last blast.

Walsh could not make a breakthrough this time, but Ambrose followed his five first-innings wickets by straightening the ball up to claim Blewett leg-before.

He also got a couple to bounce disoncertingly, but not nearly as damagingly as Jimmy Adams, who made one of his left-arm spinners spit so wickedly at Ridley Jacobs, the wicketkeeper, that it cut him above the eye and forced him to retire from the fray. Adams himself had to take over the

LINKS WEBSITE: WWW.CIICKELOTE TELEVISION:

gloves.

Fack-off 7:30 unless stated

Ueta Cup Semi-finals, first leg Allélios Madrid y Parma (8.30) Marseilles : Bologna (7 45) FA Carking Premiership Arsenal v Blackburn (7 45)

Second division Luton v York (7 45) Walsall v Wreitham (7 45) Third division Shrewsbury v Harriepool (7 45) Bank of Scotland Scottish Premier League Dundee Utd v Hearts (7 45)

Scottish League First division Clydebank v Greenock Morjon RYMAN LEAGUE: Second division: Tooking and Machain v Moi Police Third division: Clapton v East Thursdo. Lewes v Camberley Town

THE TIMES FA YOUTH CUP: Skith-round replay: West Harn v Arcenal PONTEN'S LEAGUE: Premier division: Der-by v Sinte (7.0). Everion v Sunderland (7.0) Hrst division: Barrulay v West Bromwich (7.0) League Cup: Semi-final: Stockport v Bustland (7.0). SMIRNOFF IRISH LEAGUE: Premier divi-sion: Citionville v Portadown (3.0): Crusad-ers v Gionforan (3.0). Giengwon v Linheld (3.0) First division: Ards v Limavedy: Bally-dare v Bangor: Disullery v Lame (3.0)

FA PREMIER ACADEMY LEAGUE: Under-19: Play-otta, preliminary round: previous Leicosler (10) Under-17: Leicosier v Everton (1 0) SCREWFIX DIRECT LEAGUE: Premier

Hull supporters had already begun to celebrate their gan Campbell, converted by weakened team's first league Steve Prescott, which finally sentled Hull down and, alwin of the season when Karl Lovell out-flanked the Hull dethough the full back was lax in fence for an equalising try. letting Sodje steal the touch down, he atoned with a penal-It was a difficult enough conty and then added the points version without the pressure.

SHEEHAN on BRIDGE

By Robert Sheehan, bridge correspondent As I frequently point out, the play within one suit often depends on the strategy of the rest of the hand. This example is from an early round of the 1999 Gold Cup.

Dealer South	Love all	IM
	♠ KQ109 ♥ QJ10 • K1064 ♣ 42	
♣ A75 ♥ 97 € AQ853 ♣ KJ7	N W E S A J63 A K863 ∴ 97 A A83	♣ 842 ♥ 542 • J2 ♣ Q10965

Contract: Three No-Trumps by South. Lead: five of diamonds.

WORD-WATCHING

By Philip Howard

BABERY

BRANKS

b. Leggings

a. Childishness

a. Childish tricks

c. A scold's bridle

b. A mountain berry

c. Grotesque ornamentation

Answers on page 42

South opened One No-Trump and North overbid with a direct Three No-Trumps. rather than the more normal Stayman. Not that this would have helped reach Four Hearts which is a much better contract. There are rebid problems if you open the South hand One Heart rebidding a five-card suit is to be avoided if possible.

Now, how would you play Three No-Trumps? The normal play in diamonds would be to duck the opening lead. But here that is clearly wrong. If East gets in he will switch to clubs, and unless the clubs are 6-2 the defence tricks in the minors to set the contract. The declarer, Stuart small diamond draws the is 4-3.

BITESHEEP

c Yellow vetch

ALACRIOUS

a. Lively

b. Wingless

e. Constipated

b. A bishop

a. A dog that worries sheep

ace from East: East switches to clubs, and if declarer ducks twice. West switches back to diamonds if he has the ace of spades, otherwise continues clubs.

When the king of diamonds held. Wheeler played a spade and had enough tricks for his contract. He did not see the remaining East-West cards. but I have constructed them to show a typical lay-out when playing low on the opening

diamond would fail. What if playing the king enables the defence to have enough diamond tricks to beat the contract when they 28 Qd3 take the ace of spades? That | 29 c4 are bound to get enough is not possible. From the lead of the five declarer can tell East has one diamond high-Wheeler, recognised the er than the five (Rule of point, and went up with the Eleven, remember?). It must king of diamonds at trick be an honour - with AQJ53 one. If that had lost to the of diamonds West would ace he would have had no have led the queen. So if the chance, but nor would he if king holds the first trick. he had played low. Say a either the suit is blocked or it

By Raymond Keene

from the game Ganbold -Sharavdori, Myanmar 1999. Black finish off?

KEENE on CHESS

BY RAYMOND KEENE **CHESS CORRESPONDENT**

St Petersburg

Today I give two more of the six decisive games from the ten played in the interesting clash between two greats of chess. Boris Spassky and Viktor Korchnoj. White: Boris Spassky Black: Viktor Korchnoi

St Petersburg 1999 French Desence аЗ 8 Bc2 9 0-0 10 Ra2 11 Be3 12 Buf5 **d**,c5 14 Buc5 16 Nd4 18 Re1 20 h3 23 Ne5

24 Nxd7

25 b3

26 Rc2

27 Re5

33 bxc4

38 Kh4

39 Qe2

40 Kvt15

Checkmate

12 0-0 13 Qe2 14 Bxd3 15 Rfd1 16 Nxe2 17 Ned4 18 exd4 20 22 Kf1 23 Bg3 24 h3 25 Rb4 26 Ke2 27 Rc4 28 **b**4 29 b5 30 Rb4 Nei 31 Rbb1 32 33 Rxd4 34 bxa6 35 Rb6 Nc4 36 Rd2+ 37 Kf1 Ra2 38 Rc6 Nd2+ Kg1 39 Ra1 40 f4 41 Rc2 42 Kf2 43 Kw3 44 Rc7+ 45 Nc2 White resigns Southend

Bd6 A powerful tournament on the knockout format has just concluded in Southend. Details on www.chess.redbus.co.uk. ☐ Raymond Keene writes on chess Monday to Friday in Sport and in the Weekend

section on Saturday.

WINNING MOVE

Black to play. This position is

The white king is in a very dangerous position, being trapped in the centre and unable to escape. How did

Solution on page 42

RUGBY UNION

grand-slam showdown

By David Hands AND ALASDAIR REID

DAVID REES lost his bid to play in England's grand-slam game with Wales at Wembley on Sunday when he was not among the squad that assembled yesterday in Richmond to prepare for the final weekend of the Five Nations Championship. Rees, the Sale wing, trained last week but could not prove his fitness when Clive Woodward, the England coach, watched his club defeat

London Irish at the weekend. Rees joins Kyran Bracken on the sidelines: both were injured against France and while Matt Dawson will step up at scrum half, Woodward may offer another Sale player. Steve Hanley, a first cap on the wing.

Whether he does so may depend on Jeremy Guscott's fitness. Guscott will be in the squad named today but England's medical team will monitor closely the strained hamstring that has kept him out of Bath's past two games.

Wales, fresh from away victories over France and Italy, name their team today and will include Neil Jenkins, even though the Pontypridd fly half is carrying a shoulder injury that will require an operation during the summer. Stuart Reid, the Leeds for-

ward, is set to make his first full international appearance since 1995, after his inclusion in the Scotland squad to face France in Paris on Saturday. Reid won his only cap to date in Scotland's 15-15 draw with Western Samoa that year. Also drafted in are

George Graham and Doddie

Weir. both of Newcastle

Falcons.

SCOTLAND SQUAD (v France, Saturday)
Backet G Armstrong (Newcastle Falcons
captain), C Chalmers (Edinburgh Revers). capiani, C Chaimers (Edinburgh Revers).

I Fairley (Edinburgh Revers) J Lealie (Samo) K Logan (Wasps). S Longstaff (Glascow Caledonans). G Metcatte (Glascow Caledonans). C Murray (Edinburgh Revers). G Townsend (Brive) Forwards: S Brotherstone (Edinburgh Revers). G Bulloch (Glasgow Caledonars). P Burnell (London Scottish). G Grahem (Newcastle Falcons). S Grimes (Glasgow Caledonians). D Hitton (Bath). M Lealie (Edinburgh Revers). S Murray (Bedford). A Pountiney (Northampton). A Reed (Wasps). S Refd (Learns). ion), A Reed (Wasos) S Refd (Leeds), P Walton Riewcastic Falconst, G Wetr (Newcaste Falconsi

SPORT IN BRIEF

Rees out of Tour ends in defeat

HOCKEY: England's tour of Argentina came to a disappointing end on Sunday with a 2-1 defeat by the home side in the final of the quadrangular tournament in Buenos Aires (Sydney Friskin writes). Argentina A. who had served notice on England with a 5-2 win earlier in the tournament, ended an evenly fought first half with a goal by Lombi. As their confidence grew, they put England under increasing pressure and, in the liftieth minute. Matius looped a shot over the head of Triggs for the second. England replied through Sharpe from a well-worked short corner in the 57th minute but were unable to create any more goalscoring opportunites.

ICE HOCKEY: Jonathan Weaver, Manchester Storm's brightest prospect, could get the chance to step up into the National Hockey League. Weaver, 22 was watched on Saturday by Roy Mlakar. president and head of operations at Ottawa Senators. Although Storm lost their Sekonda semi-final 5-0 to Cardiff Devils. Weaver still demonstated his potential. Kurt Kleinendorst, his coach, believes he is ready for the world's premier league, "but he will need a sympathetic coach, one open-minded about his being a Brit'.

ATHLETICS: Linford Christie, the former Olympic champion sprinter, pulled out of Australia's Stawell Gift race with a hamstring injury yesterday. Christie was due to run in the semi-finals of the Easter sprint handicap, but he suffered a back-related hamstring injury after his two races the previous day. Christie was restricted in his movement and decided, on medical advice, not to run. Rod Matthews, a local sprinter, starting off with a 9.5-metre-handicap, clocked 11.91sec to win the first prize in the 120-metre race.

CRICKET: Sri Lanka's selectors announced a 15-strong squad yesterday, led by skipper Arjuna Ranatunga, to defend the World Cup in England this summer. Roshan Mahanama and Hashan Tillekeratne, neither of whom had been included in the original selection of 18, have been added to the party.

SOUAD: A Ranalunga (caplain), P.A.de Silva, S.T., Lyyasunya, M.S. Atapatiu, R.S. Kaluwiharana, W.P.U.J.C. Vaas, M.Murakiharan, U.U.Chandana, G.P.Wichremesinghe, D.P.M. Jayawardena, R.S. Kalpage, U.C. Hathurusinghe, E. Upashaniha, R.S. Mahanama and H.P. Tillekeraine

CYCLING: Gordon McCauley, of New Zealand, extended his overnight lead on the final, 66-mile stage to win the Girvan three-day race yesterday. The victory, despite what he described as a "bad patch" during Saturday's stage, increased his points advantage in the Premier Calendar 17-Race series. Chris Walker, one of the fastest finishers in the sport, took the day's stage - his second of the tour - from Julian Ramsbottom, with Danny Axford third.

FOOTBALL

Loicester v Astori Villa (7 45) Nationwide League Bournemouth v Macclesfield (7.45) Brighton v Cambridge Utd (7,45)

TODAY'S FIXTURES

LEAGUE OF WALES: Inter Cable Tel v Burry

ARNOTT INSURANCE NORTH LEAGUE First division: Thesias is Sveet v West Auch land, Easington v Stockton MINERVA SPARTAN SOUTH MIDLANDS LEAGUE: Premier division: Brundown v Russip Manor, Hillingdon Borough v London Cothey Hoddesdon v Poliers Bar Town Royston v Hamngey, St Margaretsbury v Best constield Sycob, Waltham Atbey v Barking-BANKS'S BREWERY LEAGUE: Premier division: Charleston's Smethwick Ranger: Websall Wood's Dudley Town Premier division cusp: Semi-finals: Chadley Town y Wood. hampion I, Westfields v Fingion Town.

UHLSPORT UNITED COUNTES LEAGUE: Premier division: Budungham N Spencer UNIDET SUSSEX COUNTY LEAGUE: First division: Eastpourne v Haisham; Redia v Rengmen. RUGBY LEAGUE

JJB Super League

Halifas y Sallord (7.30) -

Bramley v Doncaster (7 30)

Northern Ford Premis ship

Live on Sky Sports 2, from 3pm

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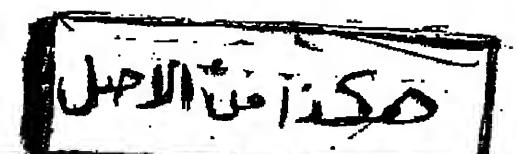
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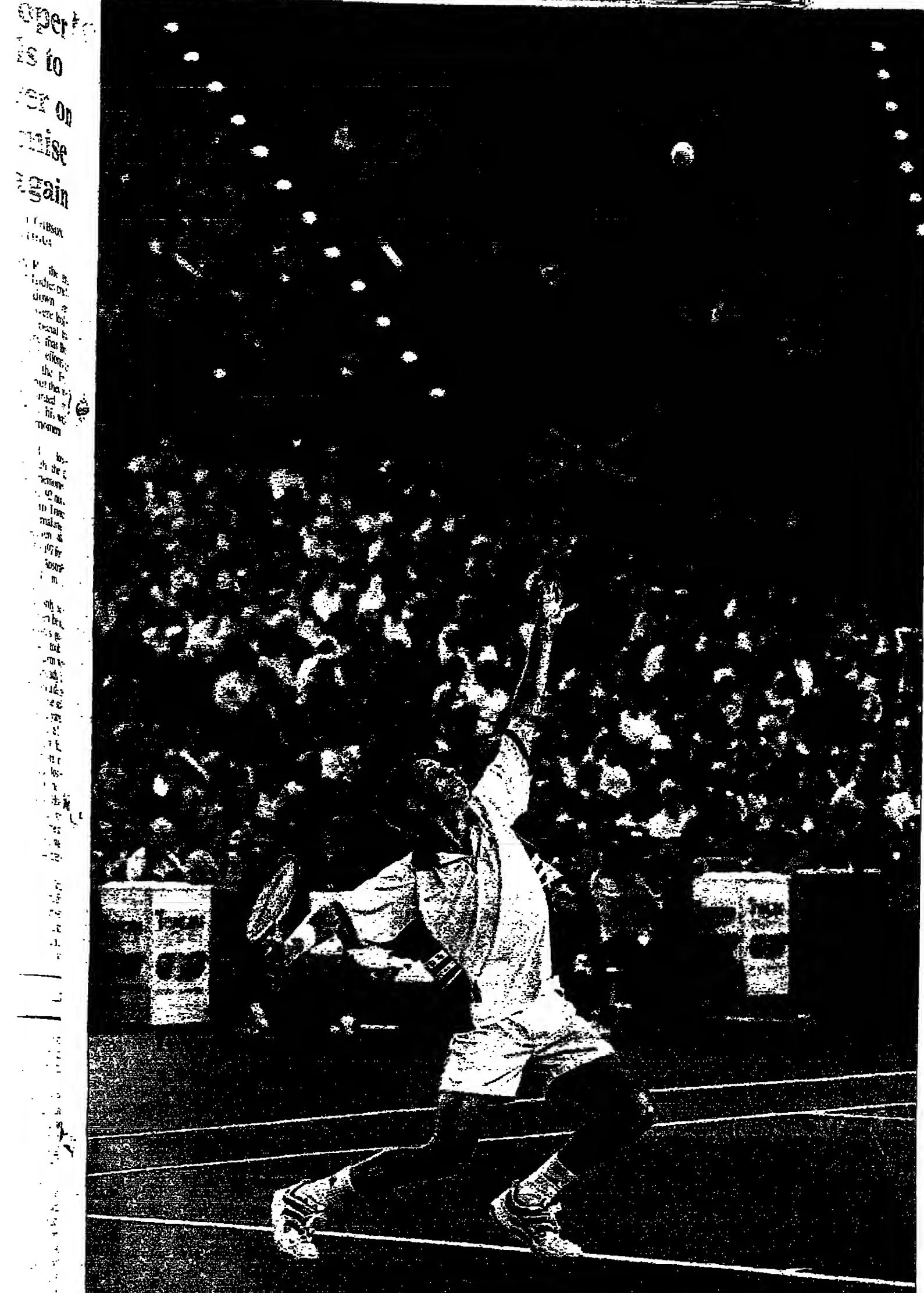
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Henman, who began Great Britain's heroic but ultimately valiant comeback with an enthralling victory over Martin, serves against the backdrop of an enthralled capacity crowd at the National Indoor Arena in Birmingham. Photograph: Clive Brunskill / Allsport

Britain puts dog days firmly in the past



Alix Ramsay, Tennis

Correspondent, on

Hoyone for tennis?

the rebirth of a once

great Davis Cup power

THERE comes a day in every young dog's life when he finally learns how to bark. At the time, it comes as a great shock, but once he has got the hang of it, there is no stopping him - no milkman or paperboy is safe. Over the Easter weekend, the Great Britain Davis Cup team learnt how to bark. It started as a quiet growl on Friday, as Tim Henman and Greg Rusedski silenced the 9,400 supporters at the National Indoor Arena by losing their opening singles, developed into a deep rumble on Saturday, as they won the doubles, and moved on to a full-throated roar as the

tie went to the wire on Sunday night. Britain lost, but only with the last four points of an enthralling, emotional occasion and what Henman, Rusedski and David Lloyd, their captain,

achieved over those three days is worth more than ranking points, tournament titles and even a secure berth in the Davis Cup world group. With some superb tennis, more effort than seemed possible and a dose of sheer bloody-mindedness, they proved, once and for all, that they can compete with the big

boys when it matters. The old image of the awfully nice British chap doing rather well but not quite well

enough evaporated after the first day. Henman looked devastated by his loss to Jim Courier on Friday. On Sunday, Rusedski looked worse. He had also fallen in five sets to the old campaigner and could not bear the thought that he had cost Britain the tie.

There was not much more that he could have done. Against Courier, a former world No I who has saved his nation's pride in Davis Cup more than once, it all came down to a couple of points here and there. Unfortunately, those points went to the American.

This is the highest level of tennis that we've been a part of at a Davis Cup tie from start to finish," Courier said generously afterwards. He knows what he is talking about. He has

athletics — because in the arena,

athletes can challenge themselves." The essence of sport: athletes challenging, the audience riding that tightrope between nationalism and thoroughly legitimate involvement and all within rules invented a century ago. Behind the scenes, the International Tennis Federation, television broadcasters and sponsors meet to consider shortening matches from five sets to three, altering the scoring system as if a new, youthful generation cannot be

taught to share the thrill. The evidence of Easter 1999 belied that thirst for change; many a child stayed up beyond their bedtime and, whether they knew how to score tennis before they entered the arena or not, they mastered the rapid learning curve. Their shrill, persistent excitement — and some of us oldies, too — was locked in the engagement that allows ordinary people to share with gifted performers. A very happy Easter indeed.

have that in their first tie back in the world group. This is the type of match that gets a lot of kids wanting to play tennis tomorrow morning." That must be the hope of the Lawn Tennis Association (LTA), which got it right over the weekend. The NIA was

played with the best against the best.

"It was incredibly competitive and, real-

ly, just thrilling," he said. 'This is as

good as it gets. England is very lucky to

the perfect setting, big enough to be imposing but designed in such a way that every member of the crowd felt like they were a part of the action. It encouraged the youngsters to come in their hundreds, it provided banners and rattles and the spectators soon understood that in Davis Cup ties they are allowed to make noise.

"The thing which was nice was that you had such a diverse crowd," Rusedski said. "You had young kids there, it wasn't like your regular tennis supporter in Britain. It was a mixture of kids, people who play, people from different backgrounds. It

it is very important." From the British perspective, this was the biggest tennis occasion in decades. Those who were lucky enough to be a part of it did their bit

to support the team, but with BBC Television's live coverage attracting an audience of 7.8 million on Sunday evening, many more had a taste of the moment. What the LTA has to do now is seize that moment and build on it. What Lloyd has to do is put the

moment behind him and plan for the future. It took Lloyd three years to get Britain back into the world group and in a couple of days he will be able to assess his chances of keeping them there. On Thursday, Britain go into the draw for the relegation play-offs, to be held after the US Open in September.

In all, 16 countries will be vying for their place in the elite — the eight losers from the world group ties trying to stay put and the eight winners of the zonal competitions trying to move up. Britzin should be seeded, but with vagaries of the procedure being a mystery to all,

including Lloyd, we wait to see. Whether the tie is at home or away depends on which country Britain is | tryman, just ahead of a threedrawn against. If Britain played at home the last time that the countries met, the tie will be played away - and vice versa. If the countries have never met before, they go into a separate draw for home advantage. More importantly, the home team picks the playing surface and with such countries as Spain, Italy, Austria and Chile in the draw, that could mean a day court, Henman and Rusedski's least favourite

Still, that is for the players to deal with in September. For now, the fact remains that Lloyd's men may have lost the tie, but they have done more for British tennis in three days than anyone has managed in years.

"It has been a fantastic event," Lloyd said. "If we could have won, it would have been unbelievable, but it got a lot of people interested in tennis. It was real blood, sweat and tears. Now we have to get back up and fight again." If Henman and Rusedski can do again what they did in Birmingham, they will live to bark another day.

GOLF

Duval casts ethereal shadow over the Masters

FROM JOHN HOPKINS **GOLF CORRESPONDENT** IN AUGUSTA

MASTERS week 1999 is already different and we have only been here five minutes. Normally, after competitors have driven up Magnolia Lane to register their arrival at Augusta National Golf Club, there is good-natured talk about any number of subjects. This time, conversations have centred on David Duval and his stunning start to the year. Less than 24 hours earlier

Duval had won his fourth tournament of the year and his second in succession and people are wondering whether he could add the 63rd Masters, which begins on Thursday. Actually, that is not strictly true. The talk was about Duval, as if he had become some deity, an ethereal presence hovering. unseen, over the preceedings.

"Has he arrived?" people wanted to know all yesterday morning. "When will he practice?" they asked. "Where is he staying?" The answer to these questions was "yes", "probably Tuesday" and "not known". Mitch Knox, his caddie, was the first to appear and then later Duval arrived to register. Surrounded by journalists and onlookers, he said: "I am excited. It's a big week and I am looking forward to it."

This did nothing to lessen the fevered speculation about Duval, 27, whose worst finish in a strokeplay event in 1999 is a tie for eighteenth.

"He definitely has something going on up there that no one else has," Jim Furyk, the United States Ryder Cup playmade it nice and I think | er. said.

"He's hotter than a firecracker right now," Fuzzy Zoeller said, and then ambled over to talk to John Daly, who is making his first appearance since pulling out of the Players Championship two weeks ago with a hip injury. At least Zoeller put Duval's most recent victory into some perspective. pointing out that on the 9th hole of his last round, Duval's drive had rebounded into the middle of the fairway from a tree — "Winner's luck." Zoeller

Thomas Bjorn and Patrick Sjoland teed off at 10.40am in a practise round yesterday, by which time Darren Clarke had completed the homeward nine and had the humbling, but by no means unusual experience at this course, of chipping on to the 17th green and then promptly putting off it.

Shortly afterwards, Sergio Garcia, the amateur, began his first official practice round in the company of Severiano Ballesteros, his mentor and counball that comprised Gary Player. Charles Coody and Bob Charles. Tony Jacklin was practising his putting at one end of the putting green while lan Woosnam was doing likewise at the other.

Lee Westwood arrived at the club and prepared to take his first look at Augusta this year. "It is going to be hard to get past him, isn't it?" Westwood said of Duval.

"He is certainly on a roll," Mark Calcavecchia, the 1989 Open champion, said. "To win four tournaments in the Nineties is pretty good. To win four in one year before -Augusta is fantastic."



WEBSITE: www.psstour.com Coverage of the Masters starts on Thursday on BBC1 at 10.30pm

Shouting down calls to gild the Easter lily

By Rob Hughes, Chief sports writer he Easter sporting weekend was a double triumph

Britain against the United States, for traditionalism. The the originals, for the first time in 21 years. Inside the National Indoor resisted calls for significant reforms Arena in Birmingham, 9,400 peoand Cambridge excelled — and the ple, as many as this resonant hall Davis Cup got exactly what it decan hold, spent three days, hour served in its centennial year, an enafter intense hour, helping Tim Henman and Greg Rusedski to lift Britain, for the first time in living memory, to within an ace of the

> Americans. Those who were not in the arena can only have gleaned through the keyhole of television the intensity of the combat and the compelling link between players and a crowd of all ages and classes.

It was draining, it was thrilling and it will leave a taste of the essence of sport long after the chocolate eggs have been forgotten. For both events, we have to thank people long dead who invented the competitions and thank those today who stand in the way of reformers.

Cricket is straining to sustain

appeal in this country and, frighteningly, one heard over the Bank Holiday of administrators talking of quick-fix reforms to try to grab the attention of youth. The thinking appears to be that young people are looking for instant gratification. that they might not understand the conventions that have, through the passage of time, made men and women compete until they drop within a given framework of tried

and trusted rules. It is cheap nonsense, arrogance, to assume that our generation can reinvent the sport of our fathers and it risks losing the support of those who trust their sport and its heritage. Instant gratification? Plastic cups are instant and thrown

away once used. No one who experienced it will discard the memory of Birmingham on Easter Sunday. Henman,

undoubtedly Britain's star performer, was wrong when he stated that if his country lost, the weekend was wasted. No sir. It took a display of consummate excellence from Jim Courier to lay Britain's cause to rest. He beat Henman and Rusedski, outlasted them in spirit and, rather than buckle before a partisan crowd, relished the challenge.

Tor was there any disgrace in losing to Courier. Six years ago, he was the ultimate warrior on court and this weekend he was pushed close to that peak again. "No way can you underestimate

Jim's experience, his fortitude and his tenacity." Todd Martin, his compatriot, had said before the last, enthralling match. There is nobody you would rather have playing for you than Jim Courier and that is why you have professional

Beware the hype when casting around for tackle

Brian Clarke says newcomers to the sport of flyfishing

itroën once produced a memorable series of advertisements for its getin-with-a-tin-opener 2CV. They purported to equate that idiosyncratic jalopy with a range of top-flight cars. "How many wheels does a Rolls-Royce

Boat Race, 170 years old.

gagement of mind, body and soul

between players striving might and

main and a crowd that came as

close to audience participation as

Thank goodness both rowing

and tennis have a resistance to

those who would tamper with their

inherent designs. On the banks of

the Thames, the University Boat

Race drew its annual 200,000

followers, admitted to the occasion

as much as to the sport. What is

wrong with that? The race remains

a magnet of fascination, the finish

still the most clear example of

eestasy and despair in the sporting

The Davis Cup pitted Great

calendar.

speciator sport can allow.

have? Four. How many wheels does a 2CV have? Four!" ... "Porsche put their parcel-shelves on the outside. With the 2CV, you get the parcel shelf on the inside!" Something like that. The wry message each time was why pay the differ-

skills are what matter

'Fishing

The same question may be asked of any flyfisher looking for new equipment just now. A new trout season is upon us and the air is filled with the song of tackledealers pushing wheelbarrows to the bank.

Of course, we all got the Citroën

joke. The difference between a car at the bottom of a range and the top is usually obvious in looks and glaring in performance. The same is not true for the flyfisher. Rods, reels and the rest are designed to help an angler put his fly where he wants it and to handle effectively any fish hooked as a re-

sult Many a lowpriced outfit will do that as well as toppriced kit and the actual rods may appear to be indistinguishable.

So why should anyone taking up fly-fishing this spring pay the difference in cost between the two? I can

think of no good reason. Astronomical prices are being asked today for tackle that incorporates minor and in some cases undetectable alleged advances. Many genuinely excellent American products sold here can be bought at a fraction of the price in

should shop sensibly and seek out expert advice outfits - rods, reels, lines, leaders the United States. You could take a break in America to buy them and have the cost of the trip cov-

time, rods that would perform brilliantly, though maybe without the cachet of a few well-hyped names, go begging. A fly fisherman on small

ered by the savings. In the mean-

streams will want a rod in the 7ft to 8ft range carrying maybe a four-weight line. An angler tackling larger rivers and many still waters will want something between 8ft and 9ft 6ins, carrying five-weight to seven-weight lines. For some lake fishing and angling for sea trout, rods of up to 10ft or a little more, carrying lines up to eight-weight or so, will be useful. Large numbers of rods for all

these purposes are priced at £400,

£500 and more, while serviceable

and flies together — can be bought for two-thirds less. The rods I use for virtually all my own stream and river fishing cost £120 apiece - yet have had users of £500 rods gasp at the silken ease with which each puts out a line. My favourite wet-fly rod for lakes cost me £25 second-hand and its original owner £70 new. When I wanted a salmon two-hander, I sought advice: from a brilliant salmon angler. What did he recommend out of all the rods available, most of which

picked up second-hand for £200. It performs like a dream. The reality is that few rods and anglers are born for one another. Often enough, we buy a rod that

he had tried? Why, the same rod

he uses himself - a Japanese prod-

uct costing £300 new, which I

feels good in the hand. If, having bought it, the rod shows a lessthan-fatal quirk, we tend to fish on and adjust to it. More often than not, the rod we fish with ends up becoming the rod we know and learn to love.

It is the same with fly reels. Plenty of reels now come in at between £250 and £400 -- a few at even more. I have never spent more than E80 and the two of that price I do own both incorporate superb disc drags. Many expert flyfishers are wedded to reels that cost between £30 and £40 apiece. On the high-priced options, this

or that gizmo justifies a little extra cost and hype delivers the rest. Statements like "the days are long gone when a reel was regarded largely as a place to store line" are now heard repeatedly - and are

reel will always be to store and, of course, dispense and recover line. The essential qualities — lightness, reliability and an exposed rim — cost very little in them-

In truth, the rod has not yet been priced that will turn an indifferent caster into a good caster and no outfit has been assembled that will

make up for a lack of fishing skills. Unless the angler knows the value of a cautious approach to the water, can read the currents. knows where a fish is likely to lie and can present the

right fly in such a way that it comes to his quarry's attention naturally, every penny spent on any rod will be money down the drain. None of this is to say that much expensive tackle is not superb or that good tackle will not give a

wrong. The prime function of a good fisherman an edge: simply that expensive tackle will not necessarily be good tackle and that quite superb gear can be had at a very modest price. Telling the difference in the shop or in the catalogue is, of course, the problem. For the angler who can be per-

> No rod will make a good caster

anything and can afford it, the issue is neither here nor there. For many more — and especially gullible newcomers confronted by honey-tongued salesmen — the issue is often central. My advice to anyone start-

suaded that he needs

the most expensive in

ing up is to seek independent, experienced advice if he or she can and, if they cannot, then to buy modestly and spend anything extra on tuition.

☐ Brian Clarke's next column will appear on Monday. May 3

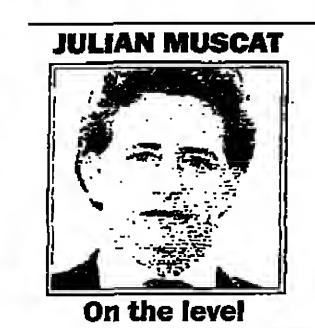
A time of trials and tribulations

acing is hardly short of bonfires to spark the imagination, yet few can match the one ignited by Criquette Head as she revelled in Juvenia's Prix Marcel Boussac triumph in October. The French trainer had just seen Juvenia repel allcomers in a principal 1.000 Guineas pointer before she announced to all and sundry: "Ah, but I have one better at home."

This is often an attentionseeking ploy employed after a two-year-old has just skated up to send bookmakers scurrying for their mobile phones. More often than not the anonymous "one at home" subsequently fails to cope with the stable's lurcher. However. Madame Head's reputation is not to be trifled with. No sooner had she identified the filly in question than Moiava was immediately installed among the favourites for the 1.000 Guineas. The trainer's reputation — and that of her filly are firmly on the line when Moiava reappears at Maisons-Laffitte on Friday.

At this early stage Moiava merits plenty of attention. Almost as impeccably connected as her trainer, she's a daughter of Bering and the Nureyev mare Mona Stella, already dam of the talented Special Quest. Remarkably, some perceive her sire. Bering, to be a weak link, even though he spent his early stallion years in Kentucky - and thus under-represented on the European turf that plainly suits his cas should pay close attention progeny. There will be plenty of stallions represented in the classics who cannot boast a pair of Guineas winners in Matiara and the outstanding Pennekump, as Bering can.

starts, latterly when fending off Restless War, himself an intended runner in the 2000



Guineas at Newmarket. If her class is evident, a detail as yet unresolved for punters is her tractability. She made all to account for Restless War and the intention to run a pacemaker on Friday suggests that Moiava can be headstrong. This is certainly not a trait favourable to her prospects at Newmarket, where free-running 1.000 Guineas winners are rare. At least Moiava faces a

meaningful test, with Blue Cloud - like Restless War. trained by André Fabre among her opponents. A halfsister to the champion miler. Bigstone, Blue Cloud finished just inches behind Juvenia in the Marcel Boussac, and thus offers the perfect yardstick by which to measure Madame Head's assessment of Moiava. Blue Cloud is also bound for the fillies' classic at Newmarket, for which she has been well supported in recent days. Both fillies are reported to have thrived over the winter.

Those searching for clues to the outcome of the 1,000 Guinto the eve-of-Grand National trial. The French test will be the most competitive of them all, unless, of course, you happen to have access to the Godolphin gallops in Dubai Moiava is unbeaten in two this weekend. Of the ten fillies quoted at 16-1 or less, no less than five are resident at Al Quoz — among them Calando,

as reliable a litmus to juvenile form as there was last season. For all their mystique, Godolphin's private trials rapidly become public knowledge as bookmakers take evasive action from the weight of money guided by their outcome. With the likes of Saytarra. Etizaaz. Kareymah and Kilting to call on, it will be surprising if Calando emerges as Godolphin's front-line candidate.

ne filly who appealed as a live 1,000 Guineas candidate after her victory on Saturday is Claxon who was prompily ruled out of the equation by her trainer, John Dunlop. Claxon bounded clean away from Alabaq, her stablemate who finished fourth in the group one Fillies' Mile in September. Dunlop prefers eschewing Newmarket in favour of an Oaks bid which, through less-measured thought, was the campaign embarked on by her dam, Bu-

Withdrawn from the 1,000 Guineas through injury, Bulaxie started favourite for the 1994 Oaks after winning decisively at Goodwood. Buiaxie's problem was her lack of tractability. A nervy filly, she would not settle sufficiently to assess whether she stayed 12 furlongs; hence Dunlop's postrace dilemma when dealing with Claxon's stamina.

What was not broached in respect of Claxon was the fact that Dunlop trained Edzaaz until she was poached by Godolphin in October. Perhaps Dunlop's reluctance to go to Newmarket with an apparently legitimate contender is based on what he saw of the two fillies on the gallops last year. The guessing game goes on.

☐ Julian Muscat writes on Flat racing every Tuesday



Calando is among the Godolphin team being prepared for the 1,000 Guineas

Injured Bradley likely to miss Grand National

BY ALAN LEE, RACING CORRESPONDENT

THE vanquishing of British hopes was painful and absolute at Fairyhouse yesterday. The finish of the Jameson Irish National was fought out exclusively by home-trained horses and, while trainer Michael O'Brien celebrated his third win in the event with Glebe Lad, jockey Graham Bradley was taken to hospital after dislocating his shoulder. For Bradley, whose mount

Rightsaidfred fell three out. the timing could not be worse. in the Martell Grand National on Saturday, he is scheduled to ride Suny Bay. runnerup for the past two years, but he is not optimistic about his chances of being fit in time. "I am feeling very sore."

Bradley said last night. "I will be staying over in Ireland tonight as I am much too uncomfortable to travel at the moment. Hopefully I will see a specialist first thing tomorrow morning and we'll take it from there but things are not looking good."

Life has dealt some dreadful cards to O'Brien, who manages his operation on the Curragh from a wheelchair, but he long ago demonstrated his shrewdness and he had been openly optimistic about Glebe Lad's prospects. Even O'Brien's confidence must have dissipated as Feathered Leader cruised past his horse to jump the last in front but Glebe Lad rallied stoically under Tommy Rudd to take the race by three

Kempton's Flat card, which featured doubles for jockeys Kieren Fallon and Olivier Peslier, was overshadowed by serious injury to John Reid 43 who broke his right leg after a fall from Dower House during the Magnolia Stakes when a stirrup snapped.

Meanwhile. Reid's intended mount, Monsajem, was third in the principal race, the Coral Rosebery Stakes, won by Jimmy Fortune aboard Carry The Flag for trainer Paul Cole. Martin Pipe made minor inroads into a rare deficit in the National Hunt trainers'

championship. His four win-

BIG-RACE DETAILS

JAMESON IRISH GRAND NATIONAL 1. GLEBE LAD (T P Rudd. 8-1 (1-lay), 2 Manus The Man | J.F. Triey, 8-1 p-tay), 4 Manus The Man IJF Titley, 8-1 g-lay], 4, Risk Of Thunder (D. J. Casey, 14-1) ALSO RAN: 8 g-lays Cellic Giant (pu). The Guads (6th), Papillon, 9 Bob Treacy (pu), 10 Roundwood (f), 14 Rightsaidfred (f), 16 Full Of Oals, 20 Druids Brook, 25 Rocketts Casile (pu), Tarthooth (pu), 40 Ultra Flutter (pu), 50 Pauls Run, 86 Oneo-fourown (5th). The Real Article (pu), 18 ran NR: Ballymacrevan, Time For A Run 31, 31, 31, dist, 41, M. J. O'Bnen at Nass, Total Cases Co. Tote: £5.80: £1.70, £2.80, £2.40, £6.50 DF: £53.90 CSF £84.25 Theast £730.44 Tho £143.60

ners included Potentate, who was taking the Welsh Champion Hurdle for the third successive year, but Paul Nicholls, the leader, replied with three.

In the week when Jenny Pitman sends out her final Grand National runner before retirement there was an appropriate celebration at Wincanton. Ben de Haan, who rode Pitman's first & National winner, Corbiere, in 1983, had gone 325 days without training a winner but yesterday he saddled two.

RESULTS FROM YESTERDAY'S 15 BANK HOLIDAY MEETINGS

Kempton Park Going: 3000 to him

2.00 (76-1) Cuite incredible (Pal Eddery, 8-1) 2 Desert Warner (20-1) 3, Onental (7-2 state) Luzem 7-2 state (2 ran NR Serda: 3) hd EDuniop Tote \$9.00,\$2.40,\$3.00 21.50 DF \$155.40 CSF, \$108.89 2.35 (6), 1, Hill Magic (N Pollard, 14-1), 2, 8ravo Edge (7-1), 3, To The Roof (9-4 lav), 9 (an 114, 114 D Elsworth Tole: £15.50, £2.50, £2.60, £1.10 DF £38.30 CSF £27.26.

3.05 (fm 2f) 1. Generous Rosi (f. Fallon, 10-11 lavi. 2 Shaya (20-1); 3, Dynamism 16-11 8 ran 3's 'S J Dunlop Tole \$180 \$1 10 53 60, \$220 DF \$1880 CSF

3.40 (1m 2f) 1. **Carry The Flag** (J Fortune, 14-1) 2. Rokeby Bowl (20-1), 3. Monsajem (15-2) 4. Captain's Log (14-1) Supreme Sound 11-2 lay 20 ran NF, 4 P Cole Tole £14 90 £3 10 £4 **50, £3 00, £4 30 DF** 280 90 CSF £256 33 Thoast £2,080 76

4.10 (6); 1. Passion For Life (O Pesier, 13-2 lav); 2. Rifti (14-1); 3. Easter Ogit (7-1), 4. Madmun (33-1) 23 ran Nk, 4 J Akehursi Tote; 97 90; 92 30, 23 50; 92 10, 98 70. DF 641,10 CSF, 973,99 Incast 6419 83

4.45 (1m 3l 30yd) 1, Frippet (O Pesier, 20-1), 2, Kondoly (11-4 lav), 3, Through The Rye (7-2) 13 ran 1l.-4 \$ Dow Tote: £19.20, £3.10, £2.10, £1.50 DF £47.20. 5-20 (7) 1. Surprise Encounter (K Falion, 4-1), 2. Border Prince (15-2), 3. Rayman

(13-2) Dano Friendly 5-4 lav 12 ran 14. 24 E Duniop Tote 25 00, 52.70, 53 20, 53 10 DF 522 10 CSF 534.46 Jackpot: not won (pool of £37,873.03 carried forward to Uttoxeter today). Piscepot: £54.90. Quadpot: £26.60. Newcastle

Going: good, good to soft in places 2.15 (5f) 1. Master Fay (T Cunn. 4-1); 2.

AN EXCLUSIVE PRIZE DRAW

Forest Queen (12-1). 3, Best Music Metrolm (33-1) Garth Pool (4th) 6-4 tay 9 ran. 8l, hd. M Channon Tota £4 30; £1.80, £1.50, £3.40 DF £17.10 CSF £44.78

2.50 (51) 1, SRk Cottage (N Kennedy, 7-1); 2, Sweet Magrc (25-1), 3, Sealed By Fate (33-1) Mungo Park (4th) 7-2 fav. 14 ran Hd. W. R Bastman Tote £8.80, £2.10, £6.40, £11.70 DF, £65.50 CSF £165.65 Tricasi £2,937.71

ran 1'-1, 41, M Johnston Tote £5,40; £1,80, £1,70, £5,40, £5,70 DF; £21,20 CSF £52,64 Tricast £1,038,86

5.00 (1m) 1. Celestial Welcome (A Culhane, 13-2); 2, Jabereen (3-1 lav); 3, Bunnes Own (33-11, 4, Amort (20-1) 18 ran. 14, 41 Mrs M Reveley Total 28 50; £1.90, £1.60, £5.80, £4.60 DF: £19.10, CSF: £23.92. Tricast £525.85.

2.40 (5t 13yd) 1. Cote Soleii (S Drowne, 5-2); 2. Cosmena (12-1); 3. True Obsession (2-1 fav) 10 ran 'sl., nk M Channon. Tore: £3.80; £1.50. £3.90, £1.80. DF: £17.10 CSF: £36.78

3.10 (5/ 13yd) 1, Tayif (G Carler, 4-5 fav);

THE SETIMES

Nottingham 3.20 (7) 1, Titer (D Holland, 7-1); 2, Redoubtable (8-1), 3, Present Chance (20-1), 4, Dazwe (20-1). Persian Fayre 6-1 (av. 17 Going: good to soft, soft in places 2.10 (5/ 13yd) 1, Burn Park (G Hind, 11-2); 2, Paradise Yangshuo (6-1); 3, French Fan-cy (8-1). Baylown Melody (4th) 3-1 fav 9 ran. 4, hd B Millman Tole: 25.70, 21 90. £1 60, £1 90 DF: £14.80 CSF £37.36

3.50 (1m) 1, Royal Rebet (J Carroll, 6-4 (av), 2, Raaqı (13-8); 3, Cainona (11-4), 6 ran. Hd. 114, M Johnston, Total £2.20; £1.30, £1.50 DF £2.00 CSF, £3.95 4.25 (1m 41 93yd) 1, Doonares (D Hol-land, 7-2), 2, Fran (10-11 fav), 3, Munit (11-2) 9 ran 4l, 14l. M Johnston Tote £4 60, £1 70, £1.10, £1 90 DF. £29 00. 2. Paradise Lane (33-1). 3, Mac's Express (12-1) 12 ran 'st rit. J Payme Tota: £1.80, £1.20, £6.30, £4.30. DF £62.60. CSF

3.45 (6) 15yd) 1, Risky Valentine (G Hind, 10-1), 2, Grand View (16-1); 3, Night Life (5-1); 4, Bundy (5-1) Moochs Cha Man 8-4 fav. 20 ran. 174, 3i. J Spearing Total £10 30; £1.80, £5.20, £2.30, £1.80, DF £119.50, CSF, £150.72 Tricast £878.30 Placepot: \$244.10. Quadpot: £11.50

4-20 (1m 11 213yd) 1, Februar Heights (W Ryan, 4:1); 2, Beryl (2-1 lav); 3, My Tess (14-1), 9 ran, 3t, 14J. E Duntop, Tote: £7 40, £2.40, £1.60, £2.80 DF: £7.60 CSF: £12.29, Tricast: £98.00. 4.55 (1m 6i 15yd) 1. He's Got Wings (G Carter, 20-1): 2, Mane Frame (8-1): 3, Shepherds Rest (13-2). 4, Hill Farm Blues (10-1). Nikita's Slar 5-2 lav. 16 ran. 1'al, hd. M Peli Tole: £32.40: £4.40, £2.20, £1.50, £3.50 DF: £159.20. CSF: £175.21. Tricast

5.25 (1m 54yd) 1, Fallachan (P Robinson, evens fav); 2, It's Our Secret (16-1), 3, Unchain My Heart (11-1), 4, Leave It To Me (10-1), 17 ran. NR: Eucy Manella, 31, 31 M Jarvis Tote, £1.70; £1.10, £4.80, £2.90.

£1 30 DF: £19.00, CSF: £22.82. Theast

Placepot: £170.60. Quadpot: £26.70. Warwick

Going: good, good to soft in places 2.00 (5f) 1, Cotton House (A Mackay, 5-4 (8-1), 2, Kilbrannan Sound (8-1), 3, Sontime (25-1). 10 ran 2's, 3 M Channon Tote £2.10; £2.10, £2.10, £2.20. DF £12.40

2.30 (5f) 1, Lincoln Dancer (N Day, 6-1); 2, Barringer (4-1), 3, Bluegrass Mountain (11-8 lav) 8 ran, 14, 34 G Lewis Tole. £7 50; £2.50, £1.90, £1.10 DF £16.70 CSF C30 23 3.00 (1m 2i 169yd) 1, Harp Player (M Fenton, 7-1). 2. Aphaam (5-2), 3. Hathra

Khound (40-1) Port Meadow (5th) 2-1 lav 11 ran NR Gold Honor, 'A, 'A M Bell Tole £11 50: £2.90, £1.80, £6.90, DF: £46.80. CSF: £23 66 Tricast £635.05 3.35 (1m 2f 169yd) 1, Swift (Dean McK-eown, 7-4 lav); 2, Classic Colours (25-1); 3. Master Caster (12-1); 4, Aspirant Dancer (12-1) 19 ran 3'4, 2l. M Polojese Toler £3.00; £1.60, £5.10, £2.90, £3.00, DF £52.30 CSF £80.57 Theast £454.33 4.15 (1m 4f 115yd)), Luz Bay (7 Sprake, 11-4), 2. Turtle Valley (9-2); 3, Coral Red (12-1). Mancala 6-4 lav. 8 ran 3, 2 R

4.50 (71) 1. Warningford (O Urbine, 11-2); 2. Granny's Pet (7-1), 3. Late Night Out (12-1) Jo Mel (5th) 6-4 lav. 7 ran. Nk, 2'4 J Fanshawe Tote: £9.70; £3.20, £2.70 DF: £21.00. CSF. £40.90

Charlion Tote: £4.70; £2.10, £2.00, £1.80

DF: £8.60, CSF: £15.48

5.20 (5f) 1, Sotonian (J.D. Smith, 100-30 fav); 2, Press Ahead (25-1); 3, Polar Mist (8-1), 4, Faute de Mieux [16-1], 18 ran 14. hd P Felgate, Tote: £4 90; £2 10, £4.50, £2.50, £6.00 DF: £109 10 CSF: £27 53, Tricast: 6578.09 Polar Mist finished second but after a stewards' inquiry ws placed

Placepot: £54.00. Quadpot: £209.30. Carlisle

2.15 (2m 4l 110yd hole) 1, Actica (Mr J P McNamara, 4-5 (ev), 2, Choice Cut (8-1), 3, Northern General (3-1) 18 mm. 4l, dist F Murphy Toter £1 80; £1 60, £2 00, £1 70 DF: £7.80 CSF £7 36

2.45 (2m 4f 110yd ch) 1, Fan d'Estruval (Pichard Guest, 14-1), 2, Dragons Bay (2-1 lavi: 3, Turkshi Tower (14-1), 4, Keep Clear (10-1), 18 ran 3l, 11 Martin Todhunter Tole £14 60, £3.00, £1.20, £4.70, £12 20 DF: £13 70 CSF: £45 07 Treasc £422.85. 3.15 (2m 11 hdle) 1, Salvage (R McGrath, 6-1), 2, Imperio (9-1); 3, Lobbingalong (12-1) Fox's Libel 4-1 pl-tay 20 can. 21, 2', 1 W Haigh Tote £9.90; £3.20, £3.10, £4.50 DF £99.80, CSF-£62.81

2. 13. P Beaumont. Tole: £5.90. £2.20, £2.10, £3.10 DF: £11.40 CSF: £25.66. Tn-C3SC 5243 98 4.15 (2m 1) hdle) 1, Executive Design (Mr A Demosey, 9-4 (av), 2, Valedictory (?-1); 3, One! Lad (9-2) 10 ran. 2'-1. 121 Mrs M Reveley. Tore £3.70 £1.40, £5.20, £2.10 DF-£13.30 CSF-£20.51 Tricast £58.08. 4,45 (3m 2i ch) 1, Keeper's Call (Mr C Mulhall, 9-2), 2, Floruceva (4-1); 3, Major Tom (7-2) 12 ran 114, 131, R Majon Tote: £7 10; £2 60, £1 70, £1 40 DF, £15 80, CSF;

9-2) 2. Cettic Duke (5-1); 3, Minella Gold

(12-1) The Snow Burn (6th) 4-1 lav 14 ran

5.15 (2m 11 flat) 1. Denartus (Richard Guest, 5-1) 2 Goneral Louis (5-2 lev). 3. Bannerman (5-1) 18 ran NR: Joyful Again, Nousevin 31, 21 W Heigh Tole £4.90, £2.50, £1.90, £2.60 DF £9.40 CSF £19.73 Placepot: £76.20. Quadpot: £163.50.

Chepstow

Going: soil

2.00 (2m 4f 110yd hdk) 1, Joliver (A P Mc-Coy, 5-2 fav), 2, Rusty Reel (5-1); 3, Infamous (7-1), 12 ran 2'sl, 8t M Pipe, Toter 23.20; £1 70, £2.50, £1 40 DF; £6 40 CSF 2.30 (2m 4f 110yd hole) 1, Norski Lad (J. Tozzard, 4-5 tav), 2, Tam Ton (4-1), 3, Ballet High (11-2) 11 ran. 81,3'-1 P.Nicholls Tote, £1 80, £1 40, £1 40, £1 50 DF £3 00, CSF

3.00 (2m 3) 110yd chi 1, in The Blood (C

Maude, 5-4 lav). 2. Dantes Cavalier (6-1) 3. Jathito (7-2) 6 ran. Dist. dist. P Hobbs Tote, £2.20; £1.20, £2.50 DF £4.80, CSF.

3.30 (2m 110yd hole) 1, Potentate (A P Mc-Coy, 11-4), 2, Tutchev (9-4 lav); 3, Cuty Half (5-2) 4 ran. 4l, 11 M Pipe Tole \$2.90 DF 22 60 CSF: 29.53 4.00 (3m 2i 110yd ch) 1, Moorland High-flyer (Mr D O'Meara, 9-1); 2, Flappack Lad (8-1), 3, Bally Lira (14-1) Fled Lighter 7-2 tav 10 ran NR: High Mood, Morricasman, Sophre May 8i, 11d, A Hobbs, Tote £15.90; £2.80, £1.80, £3.60 DF; £34.90 CSF

269.80. Tricast: £908.50 4.30 (2m 4l 110yd holle) 1, Rash Remark (A P McCoy, 4-b favt; 2, Count Campioni (13-8); 3, Ballynebragget (12-1) 9 ran NR· Russell Road, Strong Magic 124, 131 M Pipe. Tote: £1.70; £1.20, £1.10, £1.40, DF £1.60, CSF: £1.91

5.00 (2m 4i 110yd hdie) 1. Quistaquay (J Tizzard, 6-1); 2. Handy Lass (5-2 lav); 3. Sunnse Special (6-1); 12 ran (6, 3); J.Muijns Tote: £7.70; £2.40 £1.90; £3.40 DF: Placepot: £41.10. Quadpot: £21.80.

Fakenham

Going: good, good to firm in places 2.30 (2m hole) 1, Marchant Ming (N Bentley, 25-11, 2, Freckles IB-1), 3, Emerald Venture (33-1), 13 ran 7), 124 H Alexander Tole: £30 40; £4 70, £2 60. £6 30 DF E70 70 CSF £188 97 Treast: £5 924 12 3.05 (2m 5l 110yd ch) 1. No Quitting (Mr W Wales, 5-1), 2. Verde Luna (5-4 fav); 3. Chester Ben (7-2), 8 ran, Hd. 11! M Kemp

Tote: \$4 90, \$1 30, \$1 60, \$1 10 OF \$4 30 3.40 (2m 4(hdle) 1. Kingsdown Trix (Mr S Joynes, 2-1 ;1-fav). 2. Tangshan (11-2), 3. Cambo (16-1) El Don (f) 2-1 ;1-fav 7 ran 1'4, 124, R Smith Tote, £2.50; £1.60, £2.80 DF, £6.60 CSF, £13.11 4.16 (3m 110yd ch) 1, Cracking Idea (Mr P McAlister, 9-4), 2, Zam Bee (8-1), 3, Bally-

alia Castle (3-1). Jo Jo Boy (fell) evens fav 5 ran. 6i, 2i Mrs P Brightwell Total 63.30; £1.50, £2.00 DF: £14.20 CSF £17.36. 4.50 (2m 5(110)(d ch) 1, Pearl's Choice (S Curran, 5-1), 2, Grange Court (10-3); 3 Dandle Imp (6-1), 9 ran NR Head For Heaven 1'4, El J McConnoche Tote. \$6 40; \$1 70, \$2.00, \$2.10 DF \$10.00 CSF €24.02. Tricast: £101 27

5.25 (2m hdle) 1, Foxes Tall (P Holley, 6-1), 2, Polo Venture (6-4 fav), 3, Supremism (8-1) 11 ran 3'sl, 5l R Hodges Tate. 05 70, £1 50, £1 20, £2.90 DF £8 50 CSF. £17 04 Tricast £77 79 Placepot: £341.50. Quadrot: £7.20.

Going: good to firm

2.25 (2m 1(hote) 1, New Bird (R Thornton 2-7 lav); 2. Tinged With Gold (16-1), 3. My Lost Love (33-11 6 ran Dist. 101 D Nicholson Tote £1,40; £1 30, £2,40 DF £2,90

3.00 (2m 3i ch) 1. Daytime Dawn (Mr S Moms, 20-1); 2, Boxang Match (8-1), 3, 8et Lane (7-1). Nodiorm Wonder (5th) 11-10 lav 16 ran NR Strong Trace NV, 141 R Wate Tote, £39 00; £7.10, £2.70, £1.30 DF: £215.90 CSF: £156.08 3.35 (3m 2i hole) 1. Lucky Ross (S Wynne. 7-2). 2, Larkus Aurelius (25-1), 3, Daddy Dancer (16-1). Supreme Day (5th) 8-11 fav. 12 ran. 10t, 1'-l. H Daly Tole £4.20:

4.10 (2m ch) 1. Eskieybrook (7 Jenks, 6-1). 2. Northern Saddler (9-4 lav); 3. Kap-co (6-1) 7 ran 107, 201. N Twiston-Davies Tole: £7 70: £2.70, £2.50. DF. £7 30 CSF 4.45 (3m 11 110yd ch) 1. Royal Tommy (J. A. McCarthy, 8-11 lav), 2. The Honest

£1 40, £2 60, £1 10, DF £41.90 CSF

301. O Sherwood Tote £1 80, £1.40, £2 50 5.20 (2m 3t 110yd hole) 1, Other Club (R. Thornion, 12-11, 2. Flahwe's First (14-1), 3 Berkeley Frontier (3-1). Citizen Kane (6th) 5-2 lav 12 ran NR Bad Bertrich, Forest Mil 'al, 1'al J Portman Tote: £11 50, £2 30. 52.20, 52 70 DF 527 10, CSF \$148.81 Tr-

Poschar (6-1), 3, Pamelyn (6-1) 6 ran 141,

COSI E589 81 Placepot: £253.10 Quadpot: £105.10.

Huntingdon Going: good to firm

2.00 (2m 110yd hdle) 1. Panooras Lord (E Callaghan, 6-1), 2, Chilly Lad (25-1), 3, Forestry (8-1). Capsoff (4th) 7-4 lov, 3 ran NR: Tie Break, 2:3, 1:4, 3 Warnwight, Tote 26 40, £1 90, £3.20, £2.30 DF, £719.90 CSF £110.80 Tricast £1,084.85 2.30 (2m 4f 110yd ch) 1. Winsford Hill (. Goldstein, 6-4 tayl: 2, Go Go Henry (13-2); 3. Charlosmedarin (50-1) 6 ran NR Eau Benite 101, 124 Ian Williams, Tote; £2.80, £1.60, £1.50 DF £5.20 CSF £10.66. 3.00 (2m 5i 110yd hole) 1. Ardfinnan (A Thornion, 13-8 lav), 2, Quite Lively (6-1); 3. Perfemps Mission (12-1), 10 ran, NR-Baran Irsu SI, nk Mrs J Pitman Tote: £2 90, £1 80, £2 10, £2 40 DF £8 50 CSF £12.51 3.30 (3m ch) 1, Cedar Square (Mr C Bon-

rain 121, 71, V Dartnett Tote £12,40, £260, £1.50, £2.80 DF £24.70 CSF £45.16 TH 4.05 (2m 5l 110yd hole) 1. Claire's Dancer (M Richards, 6-1): 2, Prairie Minstrel

ner. 9-1), 2. Swing Quartet (4-1), 3. Hi Had-ley (16-1) Seabrook Lad (5th) 5-2 (av. 10

(12-1); 3, Two To Tango (4-1) Besse Browne (left) 5-2 tav 10 ran Nk, 51 Andrew Turnell Tole £9.20; £2.10, £3.40, £1.10 DF: £34.90, CSF, £69.87 Tricast £298.66 4.35 (2m 110yd ch) 1, Tree Creeper (J Goldslein, 4-1): 2. Come On Penny (5-1) Tom Silk (fell) 9-4 lav. 7 ran. 3l. 22l. Andrew Turnell Tale: \$5.40, \$2.00, \$2.50. DF: \$27.70 CSF: \$22.69 Placepot: £261.00 Quadpot: £91.80.

5.05 (2m 110yd flat) 1. De Chelly (Mr V Coogan, 16-1), 2. Toreo (6-1), 3. Wunta (11-2) Lady Busted 9-4 fav 15 ran NR Chasing Bailey's, General Custer, Mister Graham, Single Impression 34, 3L P Webber Tote £57.20; £8.30, £4.20, £2.30 DF 2595 80 CSF £118 89

Placepot: £186.30. Quadpot: £61.20.

Market Rasen

Going: good 2.15 (2m 11 110yd hdie) 1, Unitus (W Worthington, 20-1). 2. Legend of Love (evens fav). 3, Our Mari Fiin (9-2). 9 ran Shihd. 10 M Chapman Tote £18.40, £3.20 £1.40. 2.45 (2m 1t 110yd ch) 1, Rodders (H Offv-

er. 12-1); 2, Jills Joy (14-1) 3 Portuc (4-5 fax) 9 ran 2'4, 2'4, J Glover, Tote £10.50; 52.60, 52.50, £1.80, DF, £67,20, CSF 3.20 (2m 3t 110yd hose) 1, Shahrani (C Raiter, 12-1), 2, Lucky Master (7-1): 3. Al-

zoomo (5-1) 9 ran 'il shihd M Chapman Tote: £1180; £200, £180, £220 DF £47 90 CSF £87 43 Treast; £436.39. 3.55 (2m 11 110)yd chj 1, Avanti Express (Soothe Mitchell, 6-1); 2. Miss Parmyhill (10-1); 3, Coof Spot (5-1). Oscal An Doras (4th) 2-1 lay 7 ran. 'Al, 67 C Egerton Tote 57 20: £3 30, £4 70 DF £106 20 CSF.

4.30 (2m 3i) 10yd hdle) 1, Coolaw (A Magure, 5-2), 2, Strong Spray (6-1); 3, Hot n Saucy (7-4 lav) 11 ran NR; Shardante. Slar Mystery 11, 1's F Murphy, Tote £3 50, £1 30, £1 30, £1 70 DF £8 30, CSF 5.00 (3m 1(ch) 1, Wren Warbler (A 5 Smith, 15-8 lav); 2. Willie Wannabs (20-1); 3. Falcoris Flame (14-1) 9 ran NR Rubon Prince 21, 41 Mrs P Robeson Tate: £3 10, £1,40, £4 10, £3,90 DF £74 60 CSF

233 19. Tricasi 2367 08 5.30 (1m Si 110yd flal) 1, Tohunga (N Horrocks, 7-2), 2, Obelsk (5-2 lav); 3, Crack Shot (13-2) 13 ran NR: Junst 134 3t M Hammond Tote: £9.00, £2.00, £1.70, £2.50 DF: £13.10 CSF, £14.31.

Placepot £127.50. Quadoot: £30,20. Plumpton Going: good, good to soft in places 2.30 (2m 11 holle) 1, Chippewra (R Greene, 9-2), 2, Falleh (20-1); 3, Hank (13-8 tav) 12 ran MR Ghadames 6f, 2'-l M Pipe Tote

25 50: 22 00, £4 40, £1 50 DF 228,00 3.00 (2m.2l ch) 1, Machalimi (M.Batchelor, 2-1), 2. Merry Shot (10-1), 3, Irish Frobc (7-4 lav) 9 ran NR Welsh Harvest 101, 81 George Tole: £3,80; £1 50, £1 80, £1 10 DF £14 60 CSF, £20,55

3.30 (2m 41 hdle) 1. Surbiere IS Fox 13-2); 2. Bigwig (9-2), 3, Amaze (11-4 (av) 11 ran 3'4, 41 D Grissell Yole C6 80. £1.90, £2.20, £1.80. DF: £10.90 CSF £35 18 Tricasi £94 89 4.00 (3m 1l 110yd ch) 1, Baroncelii (M Baichelor, 5-4 lav), 2, Caras Rose (4-1), 3, Esperanza IV (10-1) 8 ran 3's, 121 M

Willunson Tale £2.30, £1.10, £1.30, £1.90. DF: £3.30, CSF £7.04 Tricast £33.09 4.30 (2m 5) ch) 1. Leitrim Cottage (C Mur-ray, 8-1), 2. Whippers Dolight (5-1); 3. Mulprior (7-1). Lyphard's Fable (5th) 7-4 lav. (ran 15i, 6i, T McGovern Tole: £20.70; £4.10, £1.90, £1.50 DF £38.40 CSF. £46 30. Theast £272 86 5.00 (2m 11 hdle) 1. Stopwatch (T Peoples, 8-1), 2, Dancing Dervish (25-1), 3, Brooksie (6-1), Laflah (4th) 11-10 fav. 6 ran.

101, 41 Mrs L Jewell, Tore £10 60, £3 10, £4 40 DF £84 90 CSF £114,72 Placepot: 2507.38. Quadpot: 258.50. Towcester

Going: good

2.15 (2m hole) 1, Summer Flower (Mr A Irvee, 7-1), 2, Indination (11-4);-(av), 3, Cochin (10-1), Chopin 11-4);-(av 11 ran 22), 11 Miss 2 Davison, Tote, £10 50, £2.80, £1 60 £2.20 DF £15 30, CSF £35.58 Tricast, £184 49 2.45 (2m 110yd ch) 1. Rossell Island (B Clifford, 11-4), 2. Whispening Court (11-1), 3. Pevent Pendragon (5-2 lav) 8 ran, 1'4, 14 Mrs J Pitman Tote £3.70, £1.50, £2.90, £7.40 DF £22.10 CSF-£31.62 Tricast.

3.75 (3m If ch) 1. Kinnahalla (F Kenry. 6-4 lav), 2, The Full Monty (4-1): 3, Trouvalle (10-1), 8 ran 1-4, 41 G Balding Tole £2 80, £1 40, £1.50, £3 50 DF, £3 90, CSF £8 51 Theast: £43 46 3.50 (3m hdle) 1, Floss Dancer (L Suthern. 3-11: 2. Northern Star (10-1); 3. Smokey Robot (14-11 Paninsula Boy 11-4 fav. 12 ran. 81. 101 J Moore Tote £4 30; £1.50, £5.50,

13.70, DF £57 50 CSF £32 72 Tocast. £356.24.

4.25 (2m 6f ch) 1, Avostar (Mr B Policck, 4-11 lav), 2. Jupiter Moon (9-2); 3. Severn Invader (9-2) 4 ran Dist, 2'-1 Mrs C Bailey Tole 51.40, DF 52.30 CSF: 52.72 4.55 (2m flat) 1, Tantivy Bay (Mr P Flyrin, 5-1), 2, Mister Doort (14-1); 3, Sir Robba (12-1) Simbor Hill (5th) 11-4 fav. 13 ran. 11 nd P Hoobs Tote, £19.20; £4.30, £7.60.

£2.90 CSF: £121.18

5.25 (2m fat) 1, Kaygebe (Mr C R Weaver, 14-1); 2, Cimarone Cove (9-2), 3, Pembroke Square (4-1) Crack-rattle (6th) 2-1 fav. 12 ran 8t. 3's F Webber Tote: £17.70; £3.40. £2.00, £1.60 DF £90.70. CSF 276 57

Uttoxeter Going: good to soft 2.15 (2m 4f 110yd holle) 1, Rockeliffe Gos-sip (C Llewellyn, 6-1), 2. Empeus (11-2), 3. Comiche (9-2) Roker Joker (6th) 3-1 (av. 9

ran NR. Dinky Dora, Malicko 12, 41 N Tyriston-Dames Tole 25.90, 21.70, 22.00, 21.80, DF, 218.80, CSF 237.88 Tricast. 2.50 (2m 4/ 110yd hole) 1, Oakbury (T Siddell, 16-11, 2, Balmoral Princess (6-1), 2. Lord Frederick (25-1), Stamford Hill 15-8

lav 15 ran Hd. dd-ht Mrss L Skidali Tole 521,40, 53 70, 52:20, 59 80 DF Clabbury, Balmoral Princess 550:20, Clabbury, Lord Frederick 2217 70 CSF Oakbury, Balmoral Princess Lovidi. Ubiroury, Lord Freder rck £179 28 Tricast: Oakbury, Balmoral Princess, Land Frederick \$1,496.85, Oakbury, Lord Frederick, Balmoral Princess £1,58204 NR: Admiral's Guest, Leap In The Dark, Twice The Groom

3.25 (3m 110yd hdie) 1. Bronhaliow (Chris Webb, 12-1). 2. Crazy Crusader (4-1), 3, Pessimistic Dick (16-1) More Tuney 11-4 tav 11 mm 191, 111 Mrs Bar. bara Warting, Tote £70 40; £10 50, £1 50, £2 50, DF, £266 60 CSF, £63 14, Tricasi

4.00 (3m 2f ch) 1 Edmond (R Farrant 11-8 lav), 2, Act of Faith (2-1); 3, Double Tempo (4-1), 7 rain MR Reluctions Nt., 19(H Daily Tote \$2.60, \$1.90, \$1.50 DF £3 00 CSF £4 65

4.35 (3m ch) 1. Spring Double (C Llevellyn, 100-30), 2, Hawaian Youth (30-1), 3. Hoodwoker (5-1) Grzzly Bear (5th) 2-1 lav 8 ran, 3t, 11 N Twiston-Davies. Tore £4.20, £1.20, £3.30, £1.80 DF £27 70. CSF £56 48 Tricast £314 80 5.10 (2m 4t 110yd hdie) 1, Bora Bora (C Liewellyn, 4-8 fav). 2. Woodland Nymph (12-1), 3. Bessie Black (11-4), 9 ran. NR

Singing Scally, 81, 91 N Twiston-Davies Tole: £2 10, £1 10, £2 70, £1.30. DF £18 70 CSF £12.38 Placepot: \$289.80. Quadpot: \$12.00. Wetherby

Going: good (good to firm in places) 2.20 (2m 7) hole) 1, Topothenorthracing (T Reed, 4-1 lav), 2, Mr Christie (12-1); 3 Noble Norman (6-1), 4. Johns The Boy (66-1) 16 ran NR Elemat City 51, shind P Beaumont Tole, £4.50, £1.40, £2.30, £1.90, £3.90 DF £31.80, CSF £47.46 Tri-Casi: £269 60

(P Niven, 1-2 fav), 2, keen to The Last 111-4), 3, Tara Rambler (11-1), 7 ran. 51, 51 Mrs M Reveloy. Tole: £1.40, £1.60, £1.30. DF £1.50 CSF, £2.01 3.25 (2m hote) 1, Samakaan (S helly, 6-5 lavi 2. Cobie Lane (10-1), 3, Stage Whisper (10-1) 14 ran, NR: No Shoes No News 111, 114 Miss V Williams Tole £230; £130. 22 30, 52:30 DF: 28:30, CSF, £14 10

2.55 (2m 4(110yd ch) 1, Wynyard Knight

3.55 (3m 1t ch) 1, Major Bell (T Reed. 7-2 it-lavi; 2, Cartingtond Gale (11-2); 3, Unguid-ed Missile (4-1), 6 ran, 313, 214, A Whitians Tale £4 50, £2.50, £2.80 DF £10.90 CSF. 4.30 (3m 'II ch) 1. Santa Jet (N Hannily. 3-1), 2, Grate Deel (11-4), 3, Harden Gien (16-1) Banker Count (fell) 2-1 lav Bran.

NR Act in Time 271, 214 G Moute. Toll 184,30, \$1,30, \$1,20, \$3,00 DF: \$5,30, CSI £11 02 Tricast £98 95. 5.05 (2m hole) 1. After Grace (Mr L MC-Grath, 12-1), 2, Blaze OI Oak (9-4 tav); 3. Lealy Grove (50-1) 12 ran NR: Paisander 91. 31 N Mason Tole £18 30; £3 70, £1.60. £18 30 DF £20.60, CSF, £39 41 Tricast

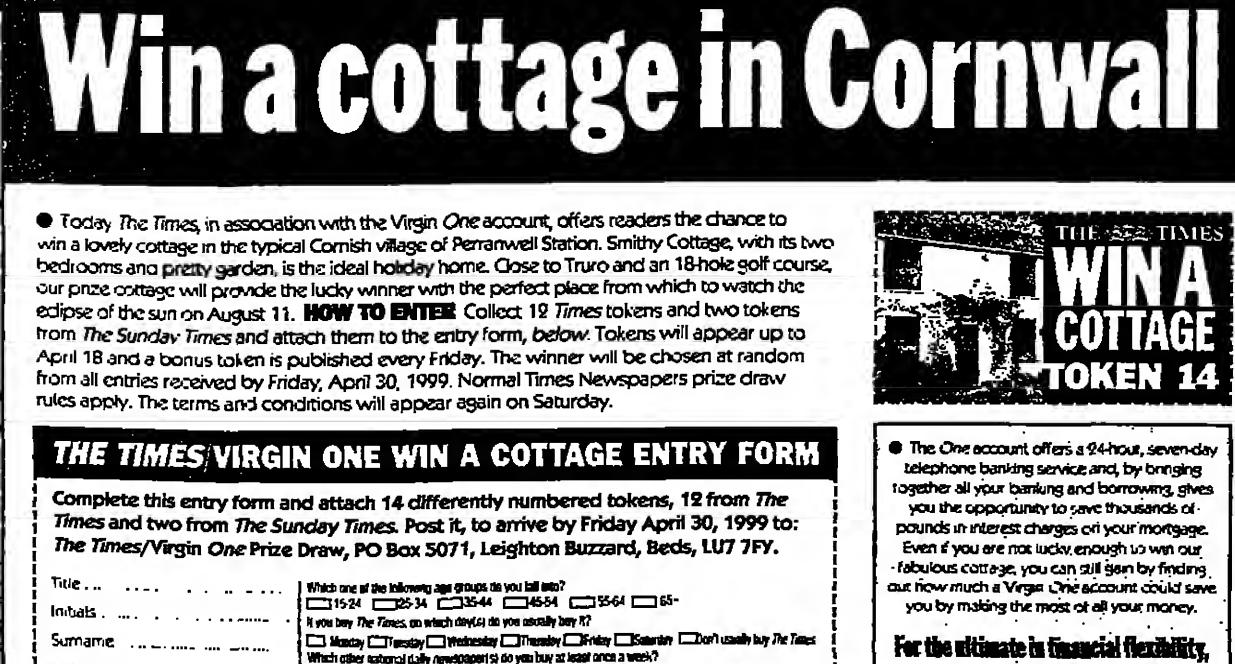
Placepot: £54.60. Wincanton

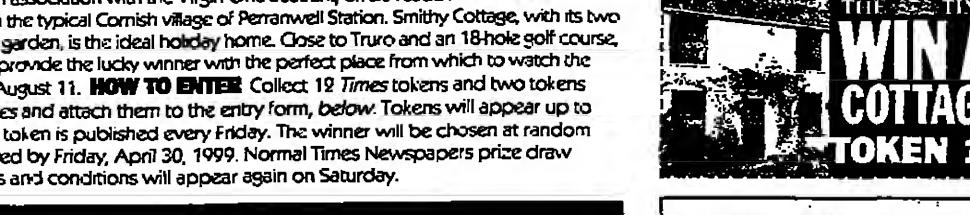
Going: good igood to firm in places! 2.00 (2m hole) 1, My Man Dan (L. Cummins, 9-4), 2, Estate Agent (8-11 lav); 3, Lobster Cottage (20-1), 8 ran, 21, 24t, 8 De Haan, Tota; 23, 10; \$1, 30, \$1, 20, \$2, 10 DF, \$1, 40 CSF, \$2, 66. 2.30 (3m 1) 1 (0yd ch) 1, Knight Templar (R Dunwoody, 8-13 lav); 2, Cherokse Boy (100-30); 3. Dunnicks Country (16-1) 5 ran.

211, dist P Nicholls Total £1.80; £1.20. 21 30 DF: £1 40 CSF £3 01 3.00 (2m hdle) 1. Afon Alwen (R Widger, 5-2 ft-lav); 2. Ayem (14-1), 3. Give And Take (12-1), 10 ran 41, 71 P Hobbs, Toles £4.70, £1.80, £4.70, £3.50 DF: £44.20

3.30 (2m 6) hole) 1, Banjo HSI (O Burrows, 33-1). 2, Entelaal (10-1); 3, Regal Gem (14-1); 4, Blue Blazer (5-1), Bernane Walk 3-1 lav. 16 ran NR. High Summer 14, 71 C Weedon, Tote: £151.30; £14.30, £2.70, £2.70, £1.30, £1.30, £331.11. Tricoet: £4.440.54. 4.00 (2m ch) 1. Far East (O Burrows, 5-1): 2. Nectariebo (20-1), 3. Primitive Streak (14-1). Connaught Cracker 6-4 lav. 9 ran. 8i. 3i, B De Haan. Tote: £6.50, £1 50, £5.30. £2.80 DF: £162.70. CSF, £73.51 Theast:

21,187.55. 4.30 (2m 6t hole) 1. Yorkshire Edition (fl. -Durwoody, 4-9 lavi; 2. For Christie (7-1); 3; Supreme Flone (5-1) 6 ran, 111, 8. P Noto-IS. Tole. £1 30: £2 20, £2 10. DF £3 10. CSF £3.48. Placepot: £162.50. Quadoot: not work:...



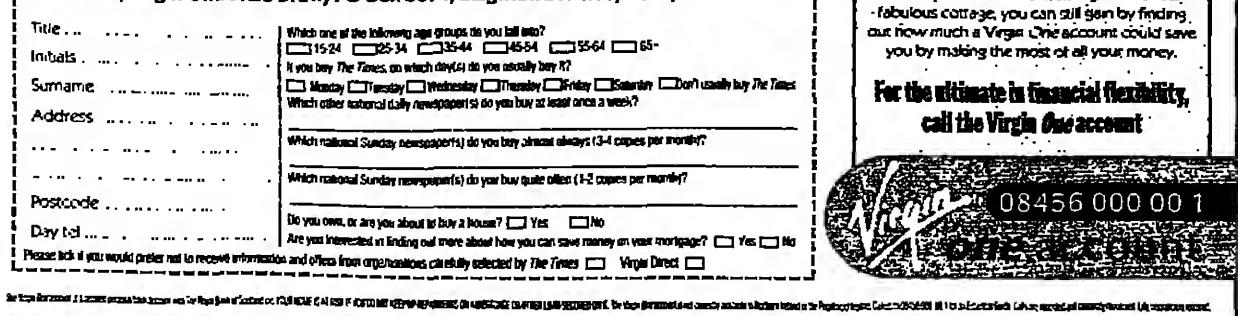


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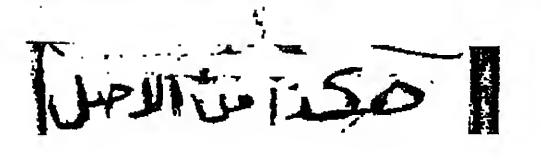
The you own, or are you about to buy a house? - Yes ho

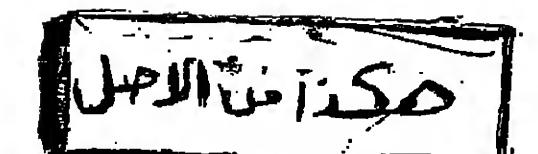
Please lick if you would prefer had to receive unbrittenion and offers from organizations chiefully selected by The Times [11] Virgin Direct [12]

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CHANGING TIMES





Chris McGrath watches an historic day unfold at Wincanton

Dunwoody makes up the numbers

IARD DUNWOODY benumerically the most ssful National Hunt jockh f his career at Wincanton rday, but insisted that the ion the horizon. Nonethe-"Lathe landmark he passed orkshire Edition in the (race yesterday had unthe nedly become a signifi-"" rin destination in itself.

PRIL 6 p

FESS.

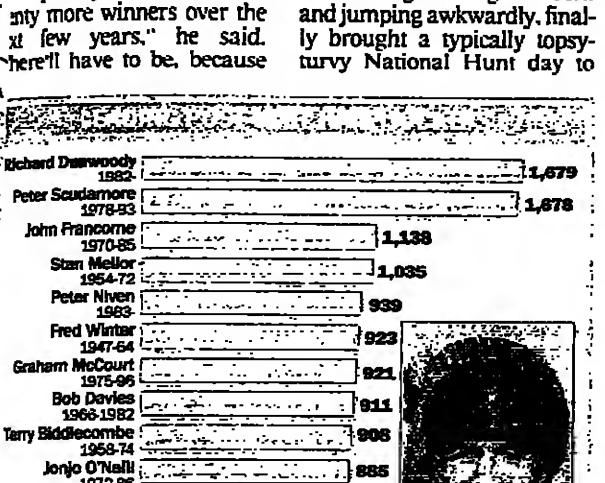
'achai course, his craving for Pean Joudamore's all-time Na-"or eal Hunt record feeds upon ame obsessive streak that By the rves him against the coron of time and injury. He stews in the sauna to coniliar with Britain's motorn: moreover, he is currentsampered by muscle damto his right arm. But he cely refuses to entertain the aight that he has found an spicious partner in his quest a third Martell Grand Nanal at Aintree on Saturday when he rides Call It A Day. Hopefully there will be

otherwise it won't be long before a certain A. P. McCoy

passes us." he said. The usual Easter holiday throng was further condensed by Dunwoody's arrival at Wincanton, one short of Scudamore's total and with five strongly fancied rides for Paul Nicholls, the season's leading trainer. Though My Man Dan had not read the script and impudently beat Estate Agent, the odds-on favourite for the

Tomorrow in Interface: How to bet on the Grand National via the Internet

first, Knight Templar did chivalrous service in the novice chase. Buckskin Cameo finished sore, however, and so did Dunwoody after Connaught Cracker fell in front of the stands on the first circuit of the handicap chase. He jogged back to the weighing room, however, and Yorkshire Edition, though idling in front and jumping awkwardly, final-



the conclusion lustily demanded by the crowd.

Dunwoody was singularly undemonstrative passing the post, and though he managed a very passable "flying dismount", à la Frankie Dettori, he seemed intent on savouring the moment with the dignity and self-possession that have been his nearly constant companions during the past two decades.

He received an embrace from his parents, a magnum of champagne from the racecourse, a warm shake of the hand from Scudamore, and a couple of hundred autograph requests — not one of which he turned down. His breeches smeared green and brown by his fall, he said: "We have had our ups and downs but it's great for the crowd that has supported me through the day

that we got there in the end. They gave me a brilliant reception and I would have felt I had let them down if I hadn't done it. Yes, this was a priority for me at the beginning of the season, but I still have plenty to keep me going: for a start, it would be nice if I could finish in the top three in the title race again. After 25,000 miles over hurdles and fences, with the odd bumper in between, it's a great moment, especially with

my mother, father and sister

Scudamore declared himself honoured to pass on his record to "the ultimate professional". He said: "People can't understand it, but I don't feel sad or bitter. I'm genuinely delighted for Richard. He has got everything, but the thing that sets him apart from all the others is his determination and courage. There are lots and lots of good riders, but to do what he has done you need that mental toughness.



Dunwoody, left, is congratulated by Scudamore after passing his record yesterday

"Not many people know what he has been through to achieve this - Stan Mellor, John Francome and myself have some idea — and it's a quite magnificent record. You may get more publicity and earn more money in some other sports, but I don't think anyone has ever worked harder in sport. He is a truly great man

Francome, who bowed out with 1,138 winners in 1985, said: "What he's done is like

RACING AHEAD

Robert Wright

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MARTELL GRAND NATIONAL

Aintree, April 10

5-1 5-1 5

11.1

GUIDE TO THE LEADING PRICES

Double Thrifler

Addington Boy

Fiddling The Facts

Contract of the second

General Wolfe

Nahthen Lad

Belmont King

Earth Summit

Suny Bay

Baronet

Coome Hill

Call it A Day

Eudipe

winning four gold medals. He gives 110 per cent and hates getting beaten. You never see him give one a bad ride".

Stan Mellor, the first jump jockey to ride over a thousand winners in 1971 with Ouzo. also paid tribute to Dunwoody: "Richard's a classic, a master jockey and rides with tremendous authority. It's a terrible argument to say who is the best, but Richard will have to be one of the all-time

value left in the race.

over such an extreme distance.

Nicholls likewise paid tribute to Dunwoody's "professionalism in everything he does". The trainer said: "A lot of people have talent but don't know how to use it, they lack that extra commitment. It's one thing being able to ride but another being able to put it all together. He's a top man." So much so, that his colleagues call him The Prince. For all his grace in the saddle, however, his secret remains that he rides with the hunger of a pauper.

ROB WRIGHT 110 New Victoria 3.40 Kosevo 4.10 Artic Courier

A STATE OF THE RESERVE OF THE RESERV

AND THE BEAR BOAT TO STANKE TO THE

:40 Gold Chance : * is .10 Killamey Jazz 4.40 Bustling Rio lewmarket Correspondent 2.40 Gold Chance. .10 Killamey Jazz. 4.10 ARTIC COURIER (nap).

OING: STANDARD DRAW: NO ADVANTAGE 2.70 king arthur median auction maiden

. **STAKES** (3-Y-0; £2,264; 71) (10 nunners) 1 DO CUMBRIAN BLUE 6 T Easterby 9-0 74 Tess, 9-4 New Victoria, 4-1 Deamond Blush, 10-1 fee Pack, 20-1 Cumbrian : Hee, Treasure Cove, 25-1 Naughty But Nice, 50-1 others.

2.40 GALAHAD CLAIMING STAKES (£2,082: 51) (9)

4 000- BUSINESS WOMAN 243 M W Easterby 3-8-10 ___ G Parkin 7 0-25 AMBER JASMINE 85 (BF) P Hastern 3-8-7 ... P Goods (5) 5 6 60-6 R.YING MEMORY 18 N Literoden 3-8-6 __ T G McLaughtin 4 7 0403 GOCHENOS 6 S C Wilksoms 3-8-5 _ _ _ D Williams (7) 3
8 HIGHLAND SPICE Mass L Perrati 3-8-4 _ N Kennedy 2
9 6043 E B PEARL 18 N Bycroft 3-8-0 _ Martin Dwyer 6 1-10 Amber Jasmine, 5-2 Gochinos, 9-2 E R Pearl, 12-1 others.

3.10 PERCEYAL HANDICAP (£2,853: 1m) (14)

Dean McKeown & 7 503- MUARA BAY 165 (CO.G) J Glover 5-8-11 _ _ _ _ F Lyrich 12
8 01-0 THE STAGER 29 (T.CD.F.6) J Jenkins 7-8-17 _ _ _ _ L Dettorl 8
9 005- COURT EXPRESS 182 (F) W Haigh 5-8-9 _ ___ A Cuffianc 9
10 4663 TOM 21 (V.CD) C Fairhurst 4-8-8 _ ___ N Kennedy 13
11 1000 CHINABERRY 29 (CD) M Britain 5-8-6 D Memagh (5) 10
12 -005 PRIE RIDGE LAD 18 (CD.F.G) J L Hairs 9-8-5 ... G Duffield 3
13 4550 AWESOME VENTURE 5 (CD.S) M Chapman 9-8-5 S Righton 1
14 ABOS SUPREME MAIMOON 21 M Polylase 5-8-5 V Halliday 14 9-2 Kingchip Boy, 11-2 juliamey Jazz, 6-1 Without Friends, 13-2 Micrahadeth, 7-1 Highson Musica Bay, 10-1 Seven, The Stager, Tool, 16-1 others.

3.40 LANCELOT CLASSIFIED STAKES (£2,306: 71) (16)

1 1120 GARNOCK VALLEY 5 (B.BF.D.F.G.S) J Berry 9-9-11 G Carter 5 2 5628 MAWKAB 6 Miss G Kalleway 4-9-9 ______K Failon 1 3 6268 WAITING KNIGHT 18 (V) Mis N Macauley 4-9-9 P McCabe 13 4 000- HILLINSKI 223 M Mollineaux 5-9-7 _____R Lappin 15 5 600- JACK TO A KING 199 J Balding 4-9-7 _____J Edmands 4 6 0302 KOSEVO 10 (V,CD) D Shaw 5-9-7 _____R Midlen (3) 2 7 305/ NUTTY STAN 676 Miss M Rowland 5-9-7 ____ R Midlen (3) 2 7 305/ NUTTY STAN 676 Miss M Rowland 5-9-7 ____ C Strange 7 9 515- SHARP STEEL 374 (CD) Miss S Wilson 4-9-7 ___ C Retter 10 040- ZOOM UP 168 (B.G.) N Graham 5-9-7 ____ N Pollard (3) 6 11 31- BIRTHDAY VENTURE 137 (CD) S Woods 4-9-4 Dane D'Night 16 12 400/ BILISHING VICTORIA 594 (F) J Glover 4-9-4 S D Williams 14 13 6/0- ESSE 109 A Smith 4-9-4 _____ R Winston (3) 3 14 00-0 POETRY IN MUTTON 11 (B) E Alson 4-9-4 ____ A Cultisme 9 15 006- ALLRIGHTHEN 193 T Wah 3-8-7 ____ R Firench 8 16 000- FOURGREYS 188 Miss J A Camacho 3-8-7 ___ N Kennedy 12 3-1 Birthday Venture, 7-2 Gamock Valley, 5-1 Mawkab, 13-2 Walting Knighti, Sea Ya Mahe, 8-1 Kosevo, Blushing Victoria, 10-1 others.

4. TU HOLY GRAIL APPRENTICES SELLING STAKES (£1,787: 1m 4f) (7)

13-8 Artic Couner, 11-4 HRI Farm Dancer, 4-1 Breteche, 9-2 Monaco Gold, 20-1 Jack The Last, Carol Again, 33-1 Avertam Star.

4.40 EXCALIBUR HANDICAP (3-Y-0: £2,190: 1m 3f) (9)



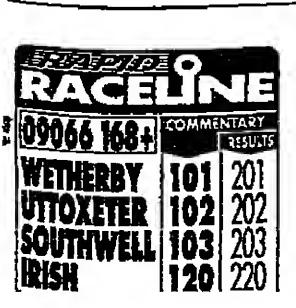
TRANERS, Mass S Wilton, 12 where's born 46 names, 26.1%; A Carroll, 4 hom 16, 25.0%; S Woods, 6 from 28, 21.4%; P Hastam, 25 from 134, 18.7%, M Pyen, 26 from 150, 17.3%; T Barron, 26 from 152, 17.1%. JOCKEYS, K Fallon, 21 winners from 101 rides, 20.8%, L Dettert, 16 from 79, 20.3%; G Harmon, 3 from 15, 20.0%, R Statinoime, 5 from 28, 17.8%; N Potland, 6 from 34, 17.6%, G Parlon, 12 from 70, 17.1%.

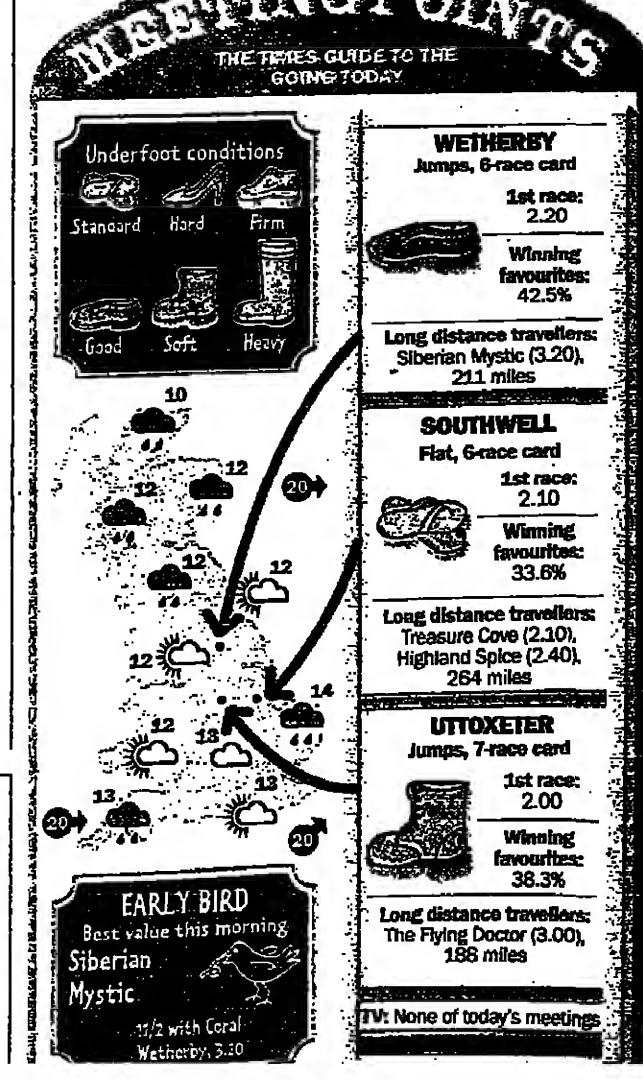
BLINKERED FIRST TIME: Southwell: 3.40 Poetry in Motion. 4.10 Breteche, Jack The Led. Uttoweter. 3 00 Red Parade, Bayline Star, Dawn Lad 4 00 Siten Song 5 00 Medium Wave, Moonraking. Wetherby: 2.50 Royal Crimson. 4 50 Lord Dorcet.

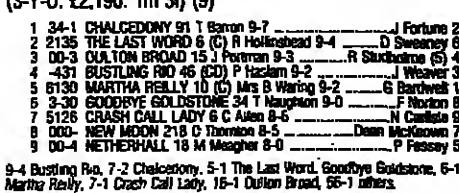
Johnston excels at Newcastle

MARK JOHNSTON swept aside any notion that his string is out of sorts with a 93-i treble at Newcastle yesterday. Several of the trainer's numers had disappointed over the weekend but the Middeham yard was back in peak form as Tiler, Royal Rebei and Doonaree obliged. The newcomer, Doonaree, was the most impressive of the Johnston winners, traveling well and quickening smoothly under Darryll Holland to defeat the favourite. Fnan, in the Sarah Jane Anderson Maiden Stakes.

Doonaree, a son of the leading sire Sadier's Wells, cost 200,000 guineas when bought for owner Martin Burke at Goffs Sales.







COURSE SPECIALISTS

(£4,455: 2m 4f) (9) **ROB WRIGHT**

3.30 Tremalit 2.00 Marsh Marigold 4.00 Davoski 2.30 Tombola 4.30 Oriental Boy 3.00 Titan Thai 5.00 Orsuno

Carl Evans: 2.30 Tombola.

GOING: GOOD TO SOFT (SOFT IN PLACES) TOTE JACKPOT MEETING

(£2,715: 2m) (16 runners)

4-1 Ron's Round, 6-1 Big Atolt, Mecandren, 7-1 Shopsholic, Troubled Man, 8-1 Charlie Chang, 10-1 Barton Scarrip, 14-1 others.

2.00 SPOTON NOVICES HANDICAP HURDLE

2.30 MOUNT ARGUS HUNTERS CHASE

(£1,593: 2m 7f) (16) 201 2421 DESPERATE 13 (D.G.S) Mrs J Saunders 11-12-10
Nr T Lane (7) 64
202 -111 TOMBOLA 22 (G.S) Mrs C Balley 8-12-10Mr B Poliock 71
203 5UPD ANDERMATT 13 (T.S) J Macde 12-12-3 Mr J Commell (7) 102
204 P13U BRAMBLE-BUL BUCK 13 (S) M A Rang 10-12-3 Mr W Wales — 204 P13U BRANKETELL DUAN 10 53 Maithens 11-12-3 205 PFPU CANESTER CASTLE 6 (F) F Maithens 11-12-3 Ar O Sherlock (7) 4-5 Tombola, 11-2 Secret Bay, 6-1 Silver Stick, 8-1 Desperate, 14-1 others.

3.00 DRAUGHT BASS SELLING HANDICAP CHASE (£2,208: 3m) (18) 301 ES-P HURRICANE ANDREW 11 (D.F.G.S) J A Moore 11-11-10

302 PYPP CAPO CASTANUM 13 (D.F.G) Mass H Knight 10-11-10 303 2210 SATCOTINO 8 (G.S) K Burke 8-11-9 _____ S Kally (5) 95
304 4505 THE FLYING DOCTOR 14 (6,5) P Bowen 9-11-4 W Marston 107
305 UVPP RED PARADE 14 (8,5) N Havite 11-11-4 _____ S Wytme ___
306 F333 TOM PINCH 20 (BF,D,8) G Balding 10-11-1 A P McCoy 97
307 LISUP MR PERKUPP 14 (D.S) Lord Tyrone 8-10-13 ___ S Curran 18
308 DOGP BAYLINE STAR 31 (B.S) Miss S Bades 9-10-13 Gary Lyons (3,24)
309 UPS2 TITAN THAI 8 (V,F,S) N Masson 10-10-13 ____ K Johnson 89
310 PP65 HELLO ME MAN 3 (B.F.G.S) B Liewskyn 17-10-10

3.30 SCANNER APPEAL HANDICAP CHASE

ROUGH QUEST, the 1996 winner, and Senor El Betrutti were the

only notable absentees at yesterday's five-day entry stage for the

Double Thriller having been cut to a ridiculously short price after

finishing fourth in the Cheltenham Gold Cup, there is plenty of

The most important factor to weight up at the moment is the

going. Described as soft, good to soft in places, will it dry out in

time for the fast ground horses to have a chance? There are some

showers forecast today, but the remainder of the week should be

dry and there is every chance that the fast-draining Aintree course will have genuinely good ground by Saturday. With that in mind, Addington Boy, Baronet, Belmont King and Coome Hill are the ones

Addington Boy, a useful chaser two years ago when trained by

Gordon Richards, spent last season in the wilderness but has

returned to form since joining Ferdy Murphy, finishing a respectable

fifth in the Gold Cup. He has claims, but has yet to prove himself

Baronet has no such stamina doubts, having won the Scottish

Grand National at Avrilast season. He disappointed on unsuitably

more of a worry is his tendency to make jumping errors. The same applies to Beknont King, the previous Scottish National winner, for

soft ground in the Midlands National at Uttoxeter last time, but

Coome Hill, winner of the Hennessy at Newbury in 1996, only

plenty of ability when winning on unsuitably soft ground on his.

reappearance at Ascot. He has been unable to cope with heavy.

going on his past two starts, in the Hennessy and King George, but

is reportedly in good shape again now. He has been schooled over

National style fences at home by his big-race partner, Steve Wynne,

and has the necessary touch of class to worthe National, At 25-1 with Ladbrokes, COOME HILL makes plenty of each-way appeal.

made it to the course twice last season, but proved that he retains

whom leading Irish rider Ruby Walsh has been booked.

most likely to shorten in the market before Saturday.

Martell Grand National, at which 36 stood their ground. With

5-2 Tremait. 11-4 Kings Cherry, 4-1 Yankie Loid, 6-1 Even Blue, 18-Seymourswill, 12-1 Hawaiian Sam, 14-1 Makir, Tight Pict, 20-1 Exact.

4.00 SCANNER APPEAL HANDICAP HURDLE

by tast ground) arrive here with something to prove. (£5,084: 2m) (9) 501 1422 DAVOSKI 24 (BF,CD,S) Miss V Williams 5-11-13 S Kelly (5) 120 502 5-4P MRI MORIARTY 255 (T,CD,F,G,S) S Bowling 8-11-4 503 5086 SIREN SONS 24 (8.D.F.S) C Mann 8-11-1 .Mr N Febby (7) 1753 504 2121 KIND'S CROSS 26 (D.G.S) A J Wilson 10-10-13 505 3003 KINSDOM EMPEROR 13 (D.F.S) W Clay 5-10-9 & Tormey 105 506 PU06 SAMAND 10 (CD,F,G,S) Miss L Siddal 7-10-7 5-2 Kino's Cross. 3-1 Davoski. 7-1 Siren Song, Gel The Potet, B-7 Kingdom Emperor, Tonka, 14-1 Mr Morieny, Samanki. 16-1 She Gas.

4.30 CJ PEARCE NOVICES HANDICAP CHASE (£4,514: 2m 5l) (11)

F Kenny (7) 93 3-1 Dovetto, 9-2 Rare Occurance, 5-1 Oriental Boy, 6-1 Oriental Style, 7-1 Specialize, 6-1 Americks, I'm Maggy, 20-1 others.

5.00 CAFFREYS IRISH ALE MAIDEN HURDLE (£2,820: 2m) (16)

6-4 Orsuno, 6-1 Magillen, Medium Wave, 10-1 Moonraking, Wuritzer, 12-1 Jambo Bwana, Manodio, Corpus Christi, 14-1 others.

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS; R Simpson, 4 miners from 8 runners, 50.0%; T George, 10 from 37, 27.0%; M Pipe, 28 from 106, 26 4%, C Main, 9 from 37, 24.3%; D Gandolfo, 5 from 21, 23.8%, M Hammond, 3 from 13, 23.1%, D Nicholson. 22 from 105, 20.8%, Miss H Knight, 16 from 78, 20.5%; P Bewen, 7 from 35, 20.0%, N Henderson, 7 from 35, 20.0%. JOCKEYS: I. Cummins, 5 winners from 14 rides, 35.7%, A McCoy, 33 from 110, 30 0%, J Mages, 3 from 14, 21.4%; R Greens, 4 from 21, 19.0%; G Bradley, 6 from 38, 15 8%; C Lieusthy, 12 from 84, 14.3%, T J Murphy, 7 hours still 12 to 25 9 Thousand, 12 from 85, 14.1%, M Ethonorald, 11 from 81

WETHERBY

ROB WRIGHT

2.20 Royal Castle (nb) 2.50 Queensway 3.20 Siberian Mystic Timekeeper's top rating: 2,20 FOREVER NOBLE.

3.50 Spirit Of Steel 4.20 Trade Dispute 4.50 CORAL ISLAND (nap)

Carl Evans: 4.20 Trade Dispute.

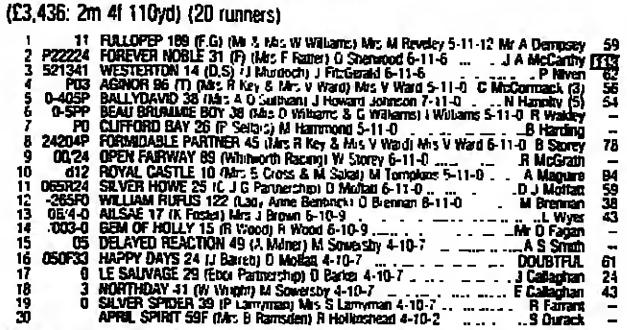
READING THE RACECARD

193 (12) 0-0432 GOOD TEVES 74 (CD,BF,F,G,S) (Mrs D Roberson) B Hall 9-10-0 ______ 5 West (4) 88 Racecard number So-bigure form (F-lea P-pulled up U-unsealed rider. B—brought down S—slipped up R—refused, D—disqualified). Horse's name Days since last outing: Fit that (B---blinkers V—visor H—hood E—Eyestield C-course winner. C-distance winer.

CD-course and detance winner BF-beaten lavourite in latest race: Going on which horse has won (F-firm, good to firm, nard G-good, S-solt, good to solt, heavy) Owner in brackets Trainer Ago and weight. Poder plus any allowance Time-

GOING: GOOD (GOOD TO FIRM IN PLACES)

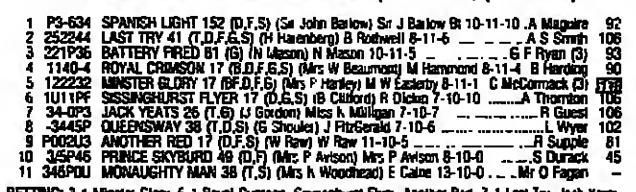
2.20 BENFIELD FORD NOVICES HURDLE



BETTING: 2-1 Forever Noble, 5-2 Fullopep, 7-2 Royal Castle 7-1 Westerton, 12-1 Silver House, 16-3 Agricus. Formulable Partner, Northday, 20-1 others.

1998: SUPREME GENOTIN 9-11-0 M A Fitzgerald (4-9 biv) J Old 7 ran A big field but likely to concern just a handful Fullopep chould be suited a step up in trip after two victories over two miles, but his double penalty leaves him vulnerable. Westerton is not short of stamina, as his 51 victory over the odds-on Mid-lettre at Utionaler tast time (2m 4l, heavy ground) demonstrated. He may not be as well served by this taster ground, however. A better proposition could be the splendadly consistent FOREVER NOBLE, who has not respectably over two miles on his tatest two starts but is better at this distance judged on his second to the useful Kings. Boy over 2m 4f at Doncaster in January Royal Castle is the other worth serious consideration. He was a good to 1 second to Majesty over 2m of Newbury ten days ago and previously demoted from limit after withing over this trip at Fakenham

2.50 MARK COCKER HANDICAP CHASE (£3,353: 2m) (11 runners)



BETTING: 3-1 Minster Glory, 6-1 Royal Curreon, Sesanghurst River, Another Red, 7-1 Last Try, Jack Yests, 8-1 Spanish Light, 10-1 others. 1998: PRINCE OF SAINTS 7-11-1 R Carrity (9-4 lav) M Hammond 8 ran

The trora-numeng Last Try is back at his layoured trip although he does seem to reserve his best for Catterick. He is likely to be tackled for the lead by Minister Glory, which might not help the chances of either. Battery Fired has been running over hurdles on his latest outlings, and while he was in tale form over fences early in the season it is disconcerting that one of his hurdles starts was in a seller. Sissinghurst Plyer has been varying between whiching and talking to complete, although even the successes were in modest company. In a tricky race, it could be worth taking a chance with ROYAL CREMSON. He went off the bod in his final two runs last season but had previously completed a double in good style. With the benefit of his seasonal debut behind him and the blinkers applied, he looks ready to go well.

3.20 TOTE HURDLE (SHOWCASE HANDICAP)

(£5,682: 2m 4f 110yd) (9 runners)

BETTING: 4-1 Once More For Luck, Siberran Mystic, 5-1 Dorans Way, 11-2 Balder, 7-1 Growing, 15-2 Tara-Brogan, 9-1 No Gammacks, 10-1 Talegamemo, 12-1 Janualcan Flight. 1998: TEN MRE HILL 7-10-3 R Guest (11-2) Mrs S Smith 8 ran

Plenty of pace in prospect here with Dorans Way, Jamaican fright, Tara-Brogan and Takeamemo all capable of running from the front. Tara-Brogan makes most appeal of the quartet, but they could conspire to set the race up for ONCE MORE FOR LUCK. Consistency is not his strong suit, but he has turned in some cracking etforts this term, including a 71 win from Cumbrian Maestro over 2m here in December. Thus trip is probably the lund of his stamma, but the likely last pace will allow him to be held up and produced late, tactics which seem to suit him well. Grooving was besten at 4-1 on in a claimer last time, which hardly advertises his claims, while No Gimmicks has a long absence to overcome and probably needs lumber. Siberian Mystic, who goes well kesh, is a more plausible alternative.

3.50 WETHERBY LONG DISTANCE NOVICES HANDICAP CHASE



1998: NOOSA SOUND 8-10-6 R Supple (6-1) L Lungo 5 ran Riot Leader was unlucky not to stretch his winning sequence to lour at the Cheffenham (4m) last lune — going down by a neck to Declaydee after his rider tost his whip. He is likely to make a bold bid to get back on the winning trail but may find a concession of 26th to SPIRAT OF STEEL (nap) beyond him. Tom Tate's youngster, a half-brother to Gold Cup winner See More Business, shaped with promise on his steeplechasing debut at Sedgefield after a year on the sidelines and then looked set to win at Kelso tast time, only to stumble and tall after jumping live out. Staying is his forte and he will not mind the ground. Shore Party plugged on dourly to beat Scotton Green and Ardent Scout in heavy ground at Utterceter (3m 2f) in February and is weighted to confirm the form. None of that trio covered themselves in glory at the Chettenham Festival tast time though and we may have seen the best of them for this season. Knock Leader, winner of a modest race at Fakenham tast time, has been done no tayours by the handicapper while Young Tomo and Invest Wisely (both surfed

4.20 HOWARD BROWN MEMORIAL NOVICES HUNTERS CHASE (£1,204: 3m 1f) (8 runners)

BETTING: 8-11 Trade Dispute, 4-1 John Account. 9-2 Red Rabel. 12-1 Billy Stack, 16-1 Three Potato Four, 25-1 Yornoangel. 33-1 Marsh's Law, 50-1 Scotch in Irish.

1**998: LAST OPTION 6-11-12 Mrs F Needha**m (11-10 Jav) R Tabe 5 ran The market is likely to be deminated by Trade Dispute, Joint Account and Red Rebet and it will be a surprise if they do not An impressive warmer at Catterick and Sedgefield already this season, he confirmed his well-being when beating Secret Bay by 26s in a point-to-point at Hutton Rudby len days ago. Joint Account would have given Cools Abbey more to think about at Musselburgh had he jumped with any fluency. He is Ilitary to be the one who gives Trade Dispute most to do providing he picks his feet up. Red Rebel, another fair pointer, started a warm tayounts for his tatest race at Bangor (heavy ground) but hit the decir four out when beginning to close on the leaders. He is likely to appreciate the better going. Billy Black cannot boast form comparable to that of the principals but still tooks the pick of the remainder.

4.50 SANDBECK MOTORS HANDICAP HURDLE

(£2,916: 2m) (9 runners) BETTING: 3-1 Farlields Prince, 4-1 Coral Island, 6-1 Connybrook, 7-1 House Of Dreams, Lord Dorcel, Ring Of

Vision, 8-1 Natal, 12-1 others. 1998: LEGAL RIGHT 5-11-12 ft McGrath (5-1) J J O'Neill 9 fan

CORAL ISLAND has not stuck in the mud this season but, back on a firmish surface, can show his true colours. The selection looked a useful recruit to hundling when trolling up In jurenille events (on last ground) at Perth and Sedgelield last season. As a result of his modest efforts in soft ground this term he is able to race off a mark 91b lower than at the start of the campaign. Maraud is another who will be suited by underloot conditions although Farfields Prince, game and reliable, may prove a bigger threat — even though he is 81b higher than when winning over course and distance in December. House Of Dreams and Nahri are hard to enthuse about on what they have achieved tately while Donnybrook and Rang Of Vision look handicapped up to their best. Lord Doncet, who counts to finisher other locks have achieved tately while Donnybrook and Rang Of Vision look handicapped up to their best. Lord Doncet, who reverts to timber effer losing his way over fences, is best watched.

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS 30.0 26.7 25.4 23.8 20.3 19.7 17.1 图到路点 Mrs M Reveley S Durack O Bremen 133 66 41 Mrs & Smith N Twiston Davies R WOODTHOUSE

Davis fights to Stay with elite Neal relishes glory of private life BY KEVIN EASON FOR a few tantalising seconds Neal relishes glory of private life MARKUSEN MARKUSEN Second because it is much more con-

STEVE DAVIS, six times the world champion, improved his chances of reaching a unique milestone by beating Darren Clarke 5-2 in the first round of the British Open in Plymouth yesterday.

Davis. attempting to remain a member of snooker's elite top 16 in the world rankings for an unprecedented twentieth consecutive season, is among a group of players, in-cluding Jimmy White, who are in danger of falling out of the top places and who require a spirited finish to the 1998-99 campaign.

When Clarke, the world No 87, compiled breaks of 75 and 46 to lead 2-0. Davis looked to be in danger of suffering a repeat of his miserable defeat by the same opponent at the corresponding stage of the Scottish Open two months ago.

"A bit of panic set in, but I dug myself out of a hole, which is always encouraging," Davis said. "I went on automatic pilot, stopped worrying about the result and the rankings, and just went for it.

"Being in the top 16 unbroken for all those years would be special, I have to admit. That's why I'll be all geared up for the next month, but I don't want to think about the rank-

ings too much." Dominic Dale, another player in contention for top-16 status, was beaten 5-4 by Michael Judge after

SNOOKER

By Phil Yates

leading 4-2, while Fergal O'Brien stayed in the hunt with a 5-4 win over Antony Bolsover, who recorded a break of 136, the highest of the event, in the first frame.

While Davis, at 41 the oldest competitor in the tournament, retains enthusiasm for practice, John Higgins admits he is finding it "boring" at the end of a long season in which he has featured at the business end of the vast majority of events. Higgins has, by his own admission, gone through the motions in preparation. There was, however, no sign of fatigue during a 5-0 whitewash of John Read.

The Scot, who defeated Stephen Hendry 9-8 in the final of last year's British Open, out-scored Read 394-73. "It's difficult to keep going when you've been playing snooker day-in, day-out for ages," he said. John Parrott overcame the loss of two frames on the black and another on the pink before play was suspended at 4-4 to accommodate the

start of the following session. By ac-

counting for the decider with a run

of 72, Parrott beat Lee Walker 5-4.

FOR a few tantalising seconds yesterday, Matt Neal's grasp on a £250,000 prize was slipping away. That was until the privateer overcame an attack of nerves at his pitstop to take the huge reward for being the first independent driver to win a round of the Auto Trader British Touring Car Championship. beating a grid packed with handsomely-funded manufacturer

Through the line of expensive glossy trucks that transported the works-financed cars to Donington Park stood a murky brown motorhome, where the bottled beer flowed last night, celebrating this family victory.

Neal's father, Steve. funds Team Dynamics through his alloy wheel manufacturing business on a budget of about £500,000 a year, a tenth the amount that manufacturers such as Nissan and Ford spend on their cars and drivers. During the week, Neal, 32, is marketing director of the Rimstock wheel business: at the weekends, he is a driver who has failed to attract the attention of a works team after seven years in touring cars.

He got his revenge by beating them all yesterday. Well-wishers, who have watched Neal struggle to overcome the big battalions, gathered around the family caravan awning, anxious to applaud one of the most romantic stories of mod-



Neal enjoys his moment of triumph on the winner's podium after his unlikely victory at Donington

ern motor racing. In the space of 44 minutes. Neal, from Stourbridge in the West Midlands, transformed himself from plucky privateer to a championship contender —and won the cost of half the team budget.

However, he admitted that his anxiety not to make a silly error

almost cost him the race and his cheque. He had led from pole position, building up a substantial lead over James Thompson, in a Honda. and driving his Nissan Primera GT faster than any other machine in the field — a shock for the Nissan works team, which sold him a 1998 car during the winter.

At the halfway stage in the 36-lap feature race. Neal gingerly entered the pits to take on fresh tyres. As he was signalled away, he hit the throttle only to discover that he was still in second gear and stalled. As he pressed the start button to rectify his basic mistake, cars rushed past the pit exit ahead of him.

"Maybe it was just nerves," he said. "I always come into the pits in second because it is much more con trollable, but I just forgot to get inte engine died on me. I thought I have fluffed it and the whole thing wal-

Perhaps that error served i release the tension that had been building all day, when everyone a the first meeting of the new touring cars season realised that Neal had more than realistic chance of winning the £250,000 put up b

Alan Gow, the organiser. He drove like a man possessed tearing past the Volvo S40 of Rick ard Rydell, the 1998 champion, or his way to chase down Thompson The Yorkshireman had won the first-round sprint and was looking for another victory and a perfecstart to his championship campaign, but he recognised that he could not hold off the rampaging

With eight laps to go. Neal divec down the inside of Thompson a Donington's Old Hairpin. From then, it was clear road all the way to the chequered flag and the end or the race of Neal's life.

With the next session Silverstone in a fortnight, Neal now has a chance to stake a claim on this championship and, if he wins next time, that cheque will have cleared at the bank and perhaps the bottled beer will be replaced by champagne in the Team Dynamics caravan.

mins, Farrell, Golden, Harns, Rivell Goels:

Harris 5 London Broncos: Tries: Ham. mond, Malard Goals: Warron 2 Alt-

St Helens: Tries: Sullivan 3, Stewart 2, Jonkers, Martyn, Sculingre, Tutan, Goals: Martyn 11 Bradford Bulls: Tries:

Dwyer, Hamion Goals: Deacon 3 Alts

Wakefield Trinity: Tries: Hodgson 2 N Law, Talbot Goals: Talbot 3 Wigan Wart-

23 Gateshead

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21 Keighley

Barrow Braves: Tries: Holl 2, Manifesa,

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16 Hunslet

York: Tries: Can, Edwards Goals: Sem 4 Hunslet Hawks: Try: Tawhar Goek

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Northern Ford Premiership

ors: Tries: P Johnson 3. Bets. Cassely, Connolly, Davies, Gilmour, Robinson

Warrington Town: Tries: Roach 2 For

ster, Hunte. Wainwinghi Goal: Briers

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Bradiord

Gateshead

York

Hull KR

Dewsbury

Fletcher Att: 1,204

Huddersfield

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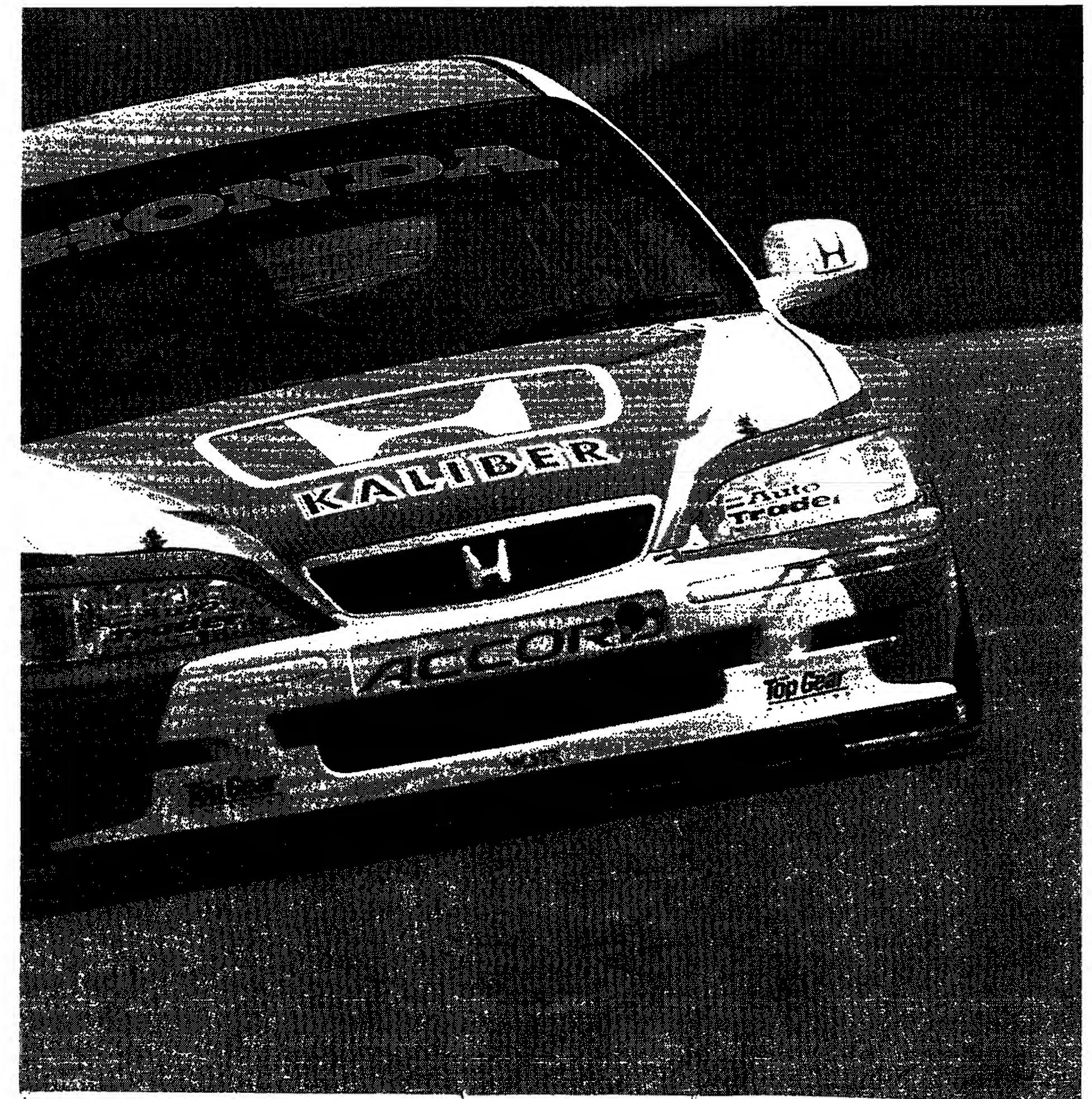
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FOR THE RECORD

BASEBALL

82 LA Clippers 80

Fourth Test match West Indies v Australia

72 not out, J L Langer 51: C E L'Ambrose 5

G S Blewett low b Ambrose.... . .

M E Waugh not out Extras (w 1, nb 1)

BOWLING: Ambrose 8-3-8-1; Watsh 10-3-22-1; Hooper 8-4-1-20-0; Adams. 4-2-2-7-0; Collymore 9-0-28-0. **WEST INDIES:** First Innings

Ambrose c Ponting b MacGil...

4-176, 5-178, 6-192, 7-205, 8-206, 9-213. BOWLING: McGrath 27.2-9-64-3; Date 18-7-67-2; Maler 17-5-39-2; MacGill

GEORGIA: BellSouth Classic: Leading final scores (United States unless stated) 270: D Duval 66, 69, 68, 67, 272: S Crnk 71, 65, 66, 70 273: R Sabbatin (SA) 65, 65, 73. 70; J Huston 71, 65, 67, 70. 274; F Langham 69, 67, 68, 70, M Weir (Can) 69, 65, 68, 72 275; G Day 68, 67, 72, 68, D Love 69, 69, 69, 68. P Mickelson 69, 71, 64, 71. Other British scores: 287: I Woosnam 70, 69,

gomene 72, 68, 73, 76

EUROPEAN CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP: Division A (s' Hertogenbosch, Holland) Classification matches: Slava Praha 0 Ritm Grodno 1, Moskva Pravda 0 kolos Bonspoi 4 Bronze medal: Slough 2 Edin-burgh Ladies 0 Final: Den Bosch 2 Pot

penalty strokes)

SEKONDA PLAY-OFF CHAMPIONSHIP: Final: Cardiff 2 Nothrigham 1 NATIONAL LEAGUE (NHL): Dalles () De-

(GB. Renault Laguna) 4 051; 4. D Leslie (GB. Nissan Primera) 4 503, 5. M Neal (GB. Nissan Primera) 4 662 6. Y Muller (Fr. Vauxhall Vectra) 5 331 Second round (36 laps. Thompson at 5 775sec, 3, Plato 7,324, 4, Cleland 12,933, 5, Radermecker 16,796, 6, JC Boulion (Fr. Renault Leguna) 17 004 Leading championship positions: 1 Thompson 29pts, 2, Neal 23, 3, Plato 20

RUGBY LEAGUE

21 Sheffield

NATIONAL LEAGUE: San Diego 2 Colora-BASKETBALL

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION (NBA): Allan-ia 85 Charlotte 83; Boslon 79 New Jersey 91, Washington 79 Marmi 90, Indiana 108 New York 95; Seattle 101 Houston 84; Toronto 97 Philadelphia 82, Chicago 88 Vancouver 87; Cleveland 98 Milwaukee 74. Deriver

CRICKET

ST JOHN'S (third day of five). Australia, with eight second-innings wickets in hand, are 161 runs ahead of West Indies. AUSTRALIA: First irmings 303 (S R Waugh

Second innings

FALL OF WICKET: 1-15, 2-76

S L Campbell c M E Wauch b Miller A F G Griffith c Heaty b Milles DRE Joseph Ibw b Dale..... BC Lara c Healy b McGrath

C A Waish low b McGrath. FALL OF WICKETS. 1-19, 2-20, 3-136.

Umpires D.L. Orchard (SA) and

S A Buckner.

73, 75, N Faldo 69, 73, 73, 72, 289: C Moni-

HOCKEY Weiss Cologne 2 (Rol Weiss won 3-7 after

ICE HOCKEY

troil 3. New Jersey 4 NY Rangers 1

MOTOR SPORT

DONINGTON: Auto Trader British Touring Car Championship: First round [18 laps, 35 28m] 1, J Thompson (GB, Honda Accord) 21min 51 403sec. 2. A Menu (Switz, Ford Mondeo) at 2 034sec. 3. J Plato 70 56m): 1, Neal 44min 02 088sec. 2

JJB Super League Hull Sharks: Tries: Campbell, Haltas, Lesir Goals: Prescott 4. Dropped goal: Robens Sheffield Eagles: Tries: Lovel 2 Sodje 2. Goals: Aston 3 Dropped goal; Aston.

Leeds Leeds Rhinos: Tries: Lawford 2, Cum-

Feathersto Workington Ватсм Keighley Lancashire I 6 2 1 3 79 147 Olomam 7 2 0 5 78 107 Bramlev 8 1 1 6 122 206 Doncaster

Rochdale 6 1 0 5 108 143

RUGBY UNION TETLEY'S BITTER COUNTY CHAMPION! SHIP: North and Midlands Lague: First division: Cumbra 16 Notis, Lines and Deby 30. Second division: Cheshre 23 Lan-cashire 7. South League: First division Gloucestershire 34 Surrey 24 Second dir. Gloucestershire 34 Surrey 24 South diving Story: Berkshire 12 Sussen 24 Fourth diving 12 Sussen 24 Fourth diving 14

sion: Buckinghamshire 8 Somersel 44

SAILING

Championships: 420 class: Man (all two races) 1. R Watson and M Elic MC. B Fleid and J Holmes 10, 3, N Belor and J Carlton 10, 4, I Maron and C Marin 11, 5 C Hepplewhite and P Marshall 13. 6. M 13 and M Hamson 18 Women: 1 H Bros and J Scott 15: 2, C Bassadone and Hiller hew 19, 3, N Barnes and J Marshall 26, 4 V 6. J Darl 13 Women: 1. 8 Hot 33.2 Archer 39: 3. 8 Lygne 56. 4. J Kneak 92. N Uloyd 95. 6. L Driscoll 97

SNOOKER

PLYMOUTH PAVILIONS: SHIELD OF STATE First round: A Davies (Wales) doux (Can) 5-2: D Finbow (Eng) & A Hide (Eng) 5-2; B Jones (Eng) til N Bond (Eng.) 5-3. J Higgins (Scot by J Read (Eng) 5-1. Murphy (N Ire) by M Geudens (Bd) 5-1. Welderson (English | Brumby (English 198) rott (Engi bt L Walker (Wales) 5-4

SCOTTISH LEAGUE

FIRST DIVISION

SECOND DIVISION

35 Rauth v Hibernan

36 Alloa v Arbrosth 37 Fortar v Q of South

39 Livingsion v Clyds

40 Partick v East File

41 Brechin y Albion R

42 Cowdoble o Dunktors 43 E Suring v Bernats

44 Queen's Py Morpose

45 Lack y Hayes

49 Enfeld v Sloveh

RYMAN LEAGUE

48 Boreign W. V. Alters of a

38 Inveness CT v Strict

POOLS FORECAST

Or Frida yearstage 16 Man City v Lincoln Coupon no, game, lorecast 17 North plon v Luton 18 Notes Coly Chestifield 1 FA CARLING PREMIERSHIP 1 A Villa v South pion 2 Leicester v West Ham X 3 Middlosbro v Charlion 2 NATIONWIDE LEAGUE FIRST DIVISION 4 Bradford v Portsmouth 1 5 Bristol C v Grimsby 6 Crews v Port Vale 7 Úxford v Bury 8 OPR v West Brom 9 Swindon v Birm'ham 10 Walford v Bollon 11 Wolves v Crystal P SECOND DIVISION 2 Black pool v Reading 33 Sounthorpe v Brentid X

3 Colchester v Weisell

15 Marclast ld v Presion 2

14 Fuham v Wigan

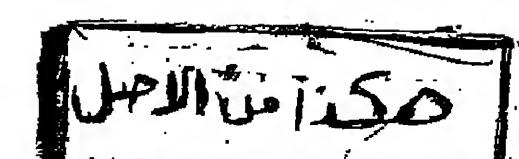
19 Oldham v Burnley 20 Stoke v Brestol R 21 Wrecham v Wycomba 2 22 York v Millwall THIRD DIVISION 23 Barnet v Scarboro 24 Cambige v Halifax 25 Carrisle v Pelerboro 26 Darimaton v Torquay 27 Herilepool v Dosser 28 Hull v Eveler 29 Leyton D v Cardiff 30 Mansfield v Southend 3 31 Plymouth v Brighton 32 Rochdale v Rotherhm 2

SCOTTISH PREMIER

34 kılmamck v Aberdeen 1

TREBLE CHANCE (home learns) Loicesier, Colchester, Carlisle Mansfield, Scunthorpe, Alloa, Partick, Brechin Morecambo, Aylesbury BEST DRAWS: Leicester Colchester. Carlisle, Scunthorpe Partick AWAYS: Barrangham Rotherham, Harman,

HOMES: Brackord Cly Brack Wolves: Fulham, Manchester Chy Wolves: Fulham, Manchester bridge, Darlington, Plymouth, Kingson FIXED COOS: Homes Bratto Wolves, Cambridge, Darlington, Supplied Aways: Preston, Luion, Supplied Draws: Coichesics, Cares, Science





Patrik Berger, of Liverpool, tumbles beneath the challenge of Olivier Dacourt, of Everton, at Anfield on Saturday. Photograph: Ross Kinnaird/Allsport

Berger finally comes good to satisfy hunger for points

his week's player lists (right) are based on the games played on Easter Saturday only. Points gained in games played yesterday and tonight will be included in next week's lists, along with next weekend's FA Carling Premiership programme.

Saturday's games brought a welcome reward for a member of one of society's permanently impoverished groups. Robin Newnham of Marcham, Oxfordshire, a first-year university student, is the winner of our weekly prize, in this case £1,000, a roll-over in the absence of any Premiership games last week.

"Money always comes in handy for students," he said. He also gets £100 worth of sports equipment.

Mr Newnham is studying History at Lincoln College, Oxford, and was pleased tohear the news of his win after a slightly disappointing weekend; he went to watch the Boat Race, which Oxford lost, while his favourite football team, Tottenham Hotspur, also came second, at home to Leicester City, who took revenge for their defeat in the Worthington Cup final with a 2-0 victory at White Hart Lane.

Yet even that cloud had a silver lining, as the performance of Matt Elliott, the Leicester defender and Scotland team to a clean sheet, was worth a total of



six points. "I had mixed feelings about that," Mr Newnham admitted. The other top points-scorer in the team, Mindbenders, was Patrik Berger, of Liverpool, with a goal and an assist against Everton in the Merseyside derby, worth a total of five. "He didn't do too well at the beginning, but he's in good form now," Mr Newnham said.

It capped a satisfying few days for Berger, who was in the Czech Republic side that won in Scotland last Wednesday; Matt Elliott, coincidentally, also played in that game, scoring an unfortunate own goal in the 2-1 defeat.

In a remarkably consistent team performance, seven of Mr Newnham's selection scored three points each: Mark Bosnich, Andy Impey, Nigel Winterburn and Frank Leboeuf were involved in shut-outs, while David Beckham, Paulo Wanchope and Jason Euell scored goals. Euell and Beckham in the same match. The only two non-contributors to the total of 32 points were Steve Stone and Paul Merson of Aston Villa.

☐ Since no ON-Target numbers were printed on this page last week, the winner of this week's competition can look forward to a roll-over prize of £1,000. So if your team total based on this week's player lists comes to either 1, 7 or 17, follow the instructions below to find out if you are a winner.

☐ Two weeks ago, in our Fantasy Quiz on this page, we asked you what four particular players had in common. Alan Shearer (Newcastle United), Mark Hughes (Southampton), Paul Ince (Liverpool) and Gary Pallister (Middlesbrough) all know how it feels to win the FA Carling Premiership, even if none of them seem to have much chance of repeating the feat with their current dubs.

☐ For legal reasons, The Times Fantasy League is no longer able to accept entries from players under 18 years of age. Players 17 and under already registered in the main to remain in the competition.

Time to reap the rewards of patience

ith less than a fifth of the season remaining. managers in The Times Fantasy League can be crippled by player injuries and suspensions and now is the time that those who have some transfers saved for a rainy day

can reap the rewards. With the Premiership transfer deadline day passing without any major moves. Fantasy League managers are wise in the

knowledge that the only possible additions to the player list are those who have spent much of the season in the reserves. This ensures that potential purchasers should keep an eagle eye on players who have most opportunities to score some

After next weekend, Chelsea, Liverpool, Manchester United and Tottenham will have only played 31 of their 38 fixtures.

whereas many Premiership sides will have played 33: A three-match ban for a player at this stage of the season can prove very costly indeed for Fantasy League managers.

Went to make one of your 12 transfers? Call

0640 62 51 03 (m-UK +44 870 901 4293) 0640 calls cost 60p per minute Those owning Robbie Fowler face an anxious wait regarding the news of his disciplinary hearing, where he is virtually guaranteed a penalty. A massive fine will not concern Fantasy League managers, but a hefty

ban will hit them hard. However, a two-match ban will still mean that he has the same amount of opportunities to score as Bergkamp. Anelka and Dublin because of the fact that

his team have failed to play all their scheduled fixtures so far. The list of players that have

been told their season is over is growing. Ramon Vega is the latest to hear those dreaded words and joins the list including Pierluigi Casiraghi, Robert Molenaar, Martin Hiden and Jeff Kenna who will all have to wait until next season before they kick a ball in vain again. **MATT SIMS**

These Eat Beans... Bandidos Darsene..... Michael Mateltschuk. Pin-Ups 7. Minor Threat The M Team. Matthew O'Nell. Chequers Champs... Robin Harrington... Lariarsdipsyteam. Razor D. Edmo Utd Mington.

hvalant Popat.. I Hate Football Lucy Crostinvalte. Solid At The Bac. .In The City.... "Sumish Stars... C Sharpe. Harchester Who? Ties Gardner. ,Allidoiswash&20... Michael Scarte. .Team Stevo... Steven Walls. Scorch.. Sarosti Daruwala .Clarkies Kickers ...

Melodymaker.

The Baggage Boys. Just A Bods Team. Peter Coliman .The Future's Red. Murrays Marvels. Roddys Rovers... Headstart Gunard. Als Bandits. Academicals Scotts Stars. Scott Brett. Ucpayneandsonic1... Four Four Two. Minor Threat 15

to win £1,000? ongratulations to Ms P Kelly. to how many teams you can enter. of London ECI, the main winner of ON-Target from two

weeks ago. Even if you do not have a Fantasy League team, you can enter this new game now — or enter a new one simply for ON-Target. All managers have the chance to win a share of £28,000 of new prizes. The Times has teamed up with EA Sports to offer you the chance to own the renowned Fifa 99 game. Every week you could win:

4 runners up: EA Sports Packs

Each EA Sports Pack contains: Fifa 99 for the PlayStation: Fifa 99 for the PC: EA Sports T-Shirt, key ring and mini football plus a record bag.

If you already have a team in the main game, you're ready to play ON-Target. Simply check your Fantasy League players' score each week and see if their total is the same as our ON-Target score. If you have scored the exact target points, a quick call to our ON-Target winners' line (national rate call) will put you in the draw to win one of the 15 prizes. You can enter at any time and there are no limits

324 323

323 323 323

game starts on Tuesday morning. of points AND called the claim line, you go into the draw. Just look in the

paper on the following Tuesday to see if you have won.

Winners The winners from two weeks ago are: Ms P Kelly of London EC1 (£500 plus EA Sports Pack); Garry Williams of Midsomer Norton; Briss Morseham of Leith-on-Sea; Mr Y Relisant of Rednel and Ms A South of Hampton-in Artien (EA Sports Packs); Ms P Snow of New Barnet; Mr S Collins of Littlehampton; Gary Wayneman of Chisiehurst; Nell Heady of London NW6; Alan Benidict of Elstree; Mr D Hatchinson of Larkhall; David Haghes of Kings Walden; John Black of Liverpool L25; Richard Greeneles of Chorley and Mis P Kessy of London NW10 (Fifa 99 CD-Roms).

FANTASY LEAGUE SERVICES.

Use these numbers for all the information you need:

CHECKLINE

To check your team's standing 0640 625 102 (ex-UK +44 870 901 4292)

TRANSFER LINE

To alter your team 0640 625 103

(ex-UK +44 870 901 4293) 0640 calls cost 600 per minute (ex UK numbers charge at national rates)

A comprehensive apdate sheet 0991 123 720 {ex-UK +44 870 901 4280}

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FULL BACKS & Croft...... C Davidson. A Farley ... R Jewes S Bjornebye. V Hogger D irwin C Flouring... V Kinder... C Harrison... D Gerden.... C Louisard . L Charret C Serrant ... A Pistone ... D Dumi..... D Lyttle___ A Rogers
T Boneloir
M Louis-Jean
S Stenepas
E Barrett......
A Hincheliffe. P Transcond J Edhiburgh ... 16 Taricco S Potts S Lazaridis **CENTRE BACKS** M Materaczi. E Taggart.... P Kaamark,.. C Pallister..... C Edwards... obieții OL Bezaticiii l D Stefanovic. J Krwsome... K Monkou.... F Renall R Dryden..... C Lundelevan J Margas .. N Ruddeck.

points, total points, valuation(m), **GOALKEEPERS FORWARDS**

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A Colo.

H Ricard....

A Armstrong

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M Harewood....
N Shipperlay....
P Van Hooijdool
JC Darchavilla....
b Fraakmas.....
R Crassveli.....
R Humphrays...
A Quinn.....

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John Miner.

Popat's Army. Ganichou Tom Summers. Henn & Goals UU. Herrietta Ball. Robert's Rover Robert Anderson Matts Magic. Matthew Watson. .Spitonthevilla Super Spurs.

Are you on target

Ist Prize: £500 plus an EA Sports 10 additional runners up: Fifa 99

CD-Rom.

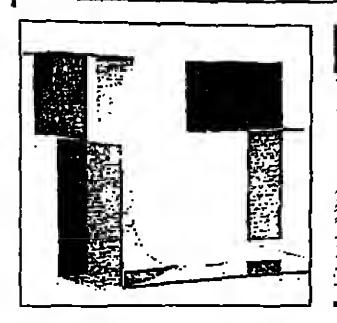
HOW TO ENTER: Look up your players' weekly point scores opposite and add them up, or call the checkline 0640 625 102. If your total score for this week matches the ON-Target number(s). then call our claim line on 0870 901 4270 (calls, charged at national rate, should last about a minute). Claims must be made before midnight on Sunday. The lines then close until the next If you have scored the correct number

Managers with the correct points who have not called the claim line will not be entered. Calls that are incomplete, inaudible or invalid will not be entered. All teams in the draw must conform to the main game rules.

THIS WEEK'S ON-TARGET SCORE

Has your team scored...

points? Check your total, then ring 0870 901 4270 (ex-UK +44 870 901 4270) Calls charged at national rates



VISUAL ART Rediscovering Katarzyna Kobro in Leeds.

THE

OPERA Exploring depravity with Salome



Descartes deconstructed in space

Reality goes into the cybermincer in Hollywood's latest high-tech blockbuster. Giles Whittell reports

Smith had sneaked into a preview of **The Matrix** and seen in it his destiny. Smith was the 30-year-old computer programmer arrested on Friday for sending a paralysing virus called Melissa racing through the Internet. His pursuit through cyberspace to New Jersey by the FBI and America Online was an uncanny echo of The Matrix's opening scenes, which even then, with mind-boggling panache, were blasting their way into general release.

Smith could get 40 years in prison, but unless he is very unlucky, he won't have his mouth digitally sealed by cyborg agents dressed like the Blues Brothers. Nor will a mechanical scorpion bore its way into his belly button as his entire understanding of reality is upended and rebuilt in a grimy rebel battleship fleeing from dastardly machines in a world where humans are trapped in slime and plundered for "bioelectricity". This is what happens to Keanu Reeves in his first decent thriller since Speed.

The only advance clue that The Matrix might be any good was the fact that it was directed by Andy and Larry Wachovski, who made Bound in 1996. Brothers are all the rage as film-making teams — to wit the Coens. the Farrellys and now, in London, the Butterworths — and Bound, full of black leather and lesbian lust. proved a cult hit with the lesbian lust crowd. Otherwise The Matrix did itself no favours with its marketing. With a desperately high-concept title and billhoards that looked like advertisements for biker gear and semi-automatic weapons. it seemed designed to pull in a few bored male adolescents but deter all grown-ups. They

should not be put off. Philosophically. The Matrix starts by pulling apart "I think, therefore I am" and replacing it. in an age of virtual hyper-reality about 100 years hence, with "I think I am, but I'm not sure any more". Such is Reeves's initial, terrifying suspicion, gleaned from sleepless nights spent hacking into the rebel (ie, human) underworld. He is right, of course. Everything he thought was real is virtual, fed to him and millions like him through data uplinks in the backs of their necks by a grotesque artificial intelligence that took over the planet in the middle of the 21st century. Steaks, jobs, nightclubs and even dreams are all digital. Real reality is the grim but noble struggle to win back freedom for humanity.

There is plenty of pseudo-scientific clapstap here. The dialogue, as Daily Variety noted,



is drenched in a "pretentious mumbo-jumbo of undergraduate mythology, religious mysticism and technobabble". But at least you have to think. which is a huge bonus in a film that will be remembered mainly for its staggering visual effects. The Matrix boasts enough squid-like robots and gothicky futurism to satisfy sci-fi purists, but where it pushes the envelope is with the human form. Reeves and Co spent three months training with a Hong Kong-based "wire fighting" expert and then surrendered their images to what the production notes call "bullet-time photography" - the computerised equivalent of super-slow motion shot

at 12,000 frames per second. The resulting kung fu and shootout sequences have people stopping bullets and leaping between tall buildings without so much as a magic cape. Superman should look to his laurels.

"Unfortunately no one can be told what the matrix is." Laurence Fishburne intones as the captain of the rebel crew. "You have to see it for yourself." The same goes for the film. In technical terms it picks up where Terminator 2 left off, and generally ups the ante for the next instalment of Star Wars.

incidentally, The Matrix also proves at last that Reeves is more than a one-hit wonder. Like Fishburne, who is still busy explaining plot details a full hour into the proceedings, he holds his own in the face of the special effects by acting as little as possible and without a trace of self-parody.

The only real performance here is by Hugo Weaving. who, as a relentless villain with bad skin and yellow teeth, is given plenty of time to establish his credentials as Hollywood's new Tonimy Lee Jones. And the only real quibble is with the damp squib role given to Carrie-Anne Moss. She looks terrific in a black catsuit, and she can run and jump and fall down as well as any of the rebels. Towards the end the question of which of them will save the world arises, and she could have been a contender. Instead she just gives Reeves a revivifying kiss. A lack of female assertiveness is one complaint that can-



Getting the point: Keanu Reeves falls foul of humankind's 21st-century technological masters in the Wachovski brothers' The Matrix, "Reeves's first decent thriller since Speed"

not be made of The Out-of-Towners, an egregiously unoriginal vehicle for Steve Martin and Goldie Hawn that Paramount must have hoped would not be competing for The Matrix's audience. It certainly looks made for ageing baby-boomers, with Martin and Hawn pratfalling mindlessly from Ohio to Central Park in nice cashmere coats. and Hawn proving the tough-

er cookie in a crisis. This is an unnecessary remake of a not terribly good 1970 original. Its American stars are watchable enough losing their heads in airports and hire cars, but they are undermined by a script whose premise is not so much out of town as out of date: New York is simply no longer scary, even to luddy-

Martin and Hawn are also

he Swedish pianist Pe-

comprehensively upstaged by our very own John Cleese. He has seven minutes of screen time as a hideously unctuous Manhattan hotel manager. and they hint tantalisingly at what might have become of Basil-Fawlty had Cleese not tired of writing his lines. So how about it? Fawity hits New York! Takes on the Matrix! You saw it here first. www.whatisthematrix.com

• First amount is estimated weekend takings. April 2-4. Second amount is total takings to March 29. Figure in brackets indicates last week's position.

US WEEKEND BOX-OFFICE TAKINGS AND ANALYSIS

	_		
	f-)	The Matrix (Warner)	\$27.6m/
		10 Things I hate About You (Touchstone)	
		The Out-of-Towners (Paramount)	
=		Analyze This (Warner)	
		Forces of Nature (DreamWorks)	
		EDty (Universal)	
	(8)	Shakespeare is Love (Miranax)	\$3.3m/\$79.3
		Doug's 1st Movie (Walt Disney)	
		Life is Beautiful (Miramax)	
		The Mod Squad (Metro-Boldwyn-Mayer)	
		ALTERNATION OF COMMISSION OF THE PROPERTY OF T	

 New releases dominate this week's chart. The lowbudget teen movie 10 Things I Hate About You, an update of Shakespeare's The Taming of the Shrew, has jumped in at the No 2 spot behind The Matrix, while The Outof-Towners, a remake of the dassic 1970 comedy, is at No 3

Peter Jablonski: aiding the Everyman cancer appeal

ROYAL SHAKESPEARE

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You need friends

MUSIC: Hilary Finch on the South Bank concert tomorrow which will boost a cancer campaign

ter Jablonski first met a double-bass player called Thomas Croxon when they were students together at the Royal College of Music. Both had quite a career ahead of them: Jablonski as a pianist who would tour North America and Japan four times before he was 30; Croxon as a freelance double-bass much in demand by the Philharmonia. London Symphony and BBC orchestras. Neither of them was to know that in October 1997 Croxon's career was to be stopped in its tracks by the onset of testicular cancer.

While ill in St Bartholomew's Hospital, Croxon noticed that The Times was running an appeal for the Institute of Cancer Research's Everyman campaign to set up Britain's first dedicated Male Urological Research Centre. "When I got better." Croxon says, "I just wanted to do something to

honour the doctors who cert he was plotting. Croxon then remembered that his old looked after me. Chemotheracollege friend. Jablonski, had by can often affect high-tone recorded Gershwin's Piano hearing, and my specialist Concerto with Ashkenazy, and was very aware of how this the deal was struck. Tomormight affect me as a musician. And I felt that this particular row, both musicians will doappeal would enable me to use nate their fees from their Festithe voice of music to thank val Hall concert to the appeal. him, and to spread the word

further to raise the profile of male cancer research." It just so happened that, at exactly that time, Croxon had turned on his radio in hospital and heard a rather remarkable performance of Beethoven's Moonlight Sonata. The pianist was Vladimir Ashkenazy. Croxon's first week back at work took him on tour with Ashkenazy, and he asked him if he would conduct the gala fund-raising conGershwin.

The Gershwin concerto fuses a jazz musician's freewheeling exuberance with the more formal disciplines of a concert pianist on his best behaviour. And that sort of fusion is very much what makes Jablonski the musician he is. His first public performance was with a jazz band at the age of six: he went for the drums, "and I guess I still have the rhythm." The piano moved centrestage for Jablonski

study at the RCM in 1988. And Ashkenazy had already spotted him and asked if he could conduct his recording of the

Jablonski went on to make his name with Tchaikovsky, with Rachmaninov, with Scriabin. "As a young pianist you are constantly asked to play the heroic, romantic repertoire." But slowly, privately, he has been focusing on Beethoven, learning the concertos out of the spotlight be-

fore daring to approach the Third Concerto with the Royal Philharmonic and Daniele Gatti next year. For Croxon, it's business as

usual: he will be back playing in the company of his old Philharmonia friends in Bemstein, Gershwin and Rimsky-Korsakov tomorrow. 'The concert will close one chapter of my life, and open another one. And it really will be for everyman. There will be many people in the audience who won't have been to a concert before-I'm so excited about that."

● Music for Everyman gala concert. Festival Hall, tomorrow at 7.30pm (0171-960 4242)



umme. Season

ROYAL SHAKESPEARE THEATRE Othello

Previews from 9 April Opens on 21 April SWAN THEATRE

WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE

World Premiere Tales from Ovid ZEB HUGHES

IN A NEW ABAPTATION BY TIM SUPPLE AND SINGH REABE Previews from 9 April Opens on 20 April THIS PRODUCTION IS SPONSONED BY THE FRANK REPORTED



THE OTHER PLACE **World Premiere** APHRA BEHN'S

Oroonoko

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A guide to the best classical CDs, in conjunction with BBC Radio 3

MOZART'S PIANO **CONCERTO NO 21** Reviewed by Colin Lawson

MOST people still associate this wonderful concerto with Bo Widerberg's 1967 film Elvira Madigan. Its story-line revolves around a chronicle of hopeless love, complemented by the wistful Romantic qualities of Mozart's slow movement, with its muted pizzicato strings, murmuring accompaniment and seamless flow of melody. But the outer movements of this concerno are also truly inspired, with some remarkable contrasts of mood and content.

Mozart completed the work in March 1785, during an amazingly busy period of teaching, giving concerts and entertaining his father in Vienna. We can only speculate on the qualities of Mozart's own playing, though something of the original sound is recreated on Malcolm Bilson's recording for DG Archiv on a copy of the composer's own fortepi-

JP1150

ano. On this disc the delicate sound of the solo instrument is not quite balanced by the powerful forces of John Elliot Gardiner's English Baroque Solo-

Another type of balance problem emerges in certain older recordings made with full symphony orchestras by pianists such as Clifford Curzon. Artur Rubenstein and Rudolph Serkin. One of the most poetic of vintage recordings is the highly recommendable version by Annie Fisher and the Philharmonia, recorded in

Mozart's piano concertos represent one of the most competitive areas in the marketplace, and there has been a veritable avalanche of recordings during the past 20 years. An-

readings from Murray Perahia and Mitsuko Uchida. was especially drawn to Alfred Brendel for the sheer range of intellect and emotion he brings to the music. His playing somehow reminds me that one of Mozart's closest friends reckoned that a well-trained musician needed to be versed in the whole of worldly wisdom and mathematics, poetry, elocution, art and languages.

But for the warmth and clarity of a modern digital recording, with finely modulated wind playing complementing an extrovert soloist, I warmly recommend as first choice Maria Joao Pires, with the Chamber Orchestra of Europe under Claudio Abbado (Deutsche Grammophon 439 941-2, £15.99). Pires remains alert to all the theatrical aspects of the music, proving herself a true virtuoso throughout the concerto. Above all she has the ability to move her audience.

To order the recommended recording, with free delivery. please send a cheque payable to The Times Music Shop to FREE-POST, SCO681, Forres, IV36 OBR or phone 0345 023 498; e-mail: music@the-times.co.uk. Next Saturday on Radio 3 (Ham): Poulenc's Concerto for Organ Strings and Timpani



Modernism's missing link

VISUAL ART: In Leeds John Russell Taylor admires afresh the vision of the Polish artist Katarzyna Kobro

She has

become a

hot tip in

movers

and

shakers?

he biggest gallery of the Henry Moore Institute in Leeds is a lu-minous white box, a cube extended upwards and able to receive a blaze of natural light filtered down from above. Usually one is not conscious of this, since the floor space is often compartmented, its lighting moderated. But at the moment, hanging as it woid, are a group of sculp-thres, all of them abstract and several painted in simple, primary, De Stijl colours. In fact, they only appear to be susperided: they are ac-

mally standing on translucent plastic stands very much Like those designed by their artist more fhan half a century ago as the ideal support for her sculp-

The artist is Katarzyna Kobro. Twentieth-century art history seems to he full of supposedly key figures of whom no one has ever heard, but it

cannot be denied that Kobro is a major discovery outside Poland. Or, in England, strictly speaking a major rediscovery, since she and her artist husband Vladislav Strzeminski have cropped up in mixed British exhibitions, most recently it seems in Annely Juda's 1993 show Couples, celebrating pairs of married artists: the Delaunays, the Arps, Ben Nichoison and Barbara Hepworth, Jackson Pollock and Lee Krasner, Kobro and Strzeminski. But there has never, anywhere, been a comprehensive solo retrospective devoted to Kobro, and that now staged in Leeds presents her and her art in a wholly new perspective.

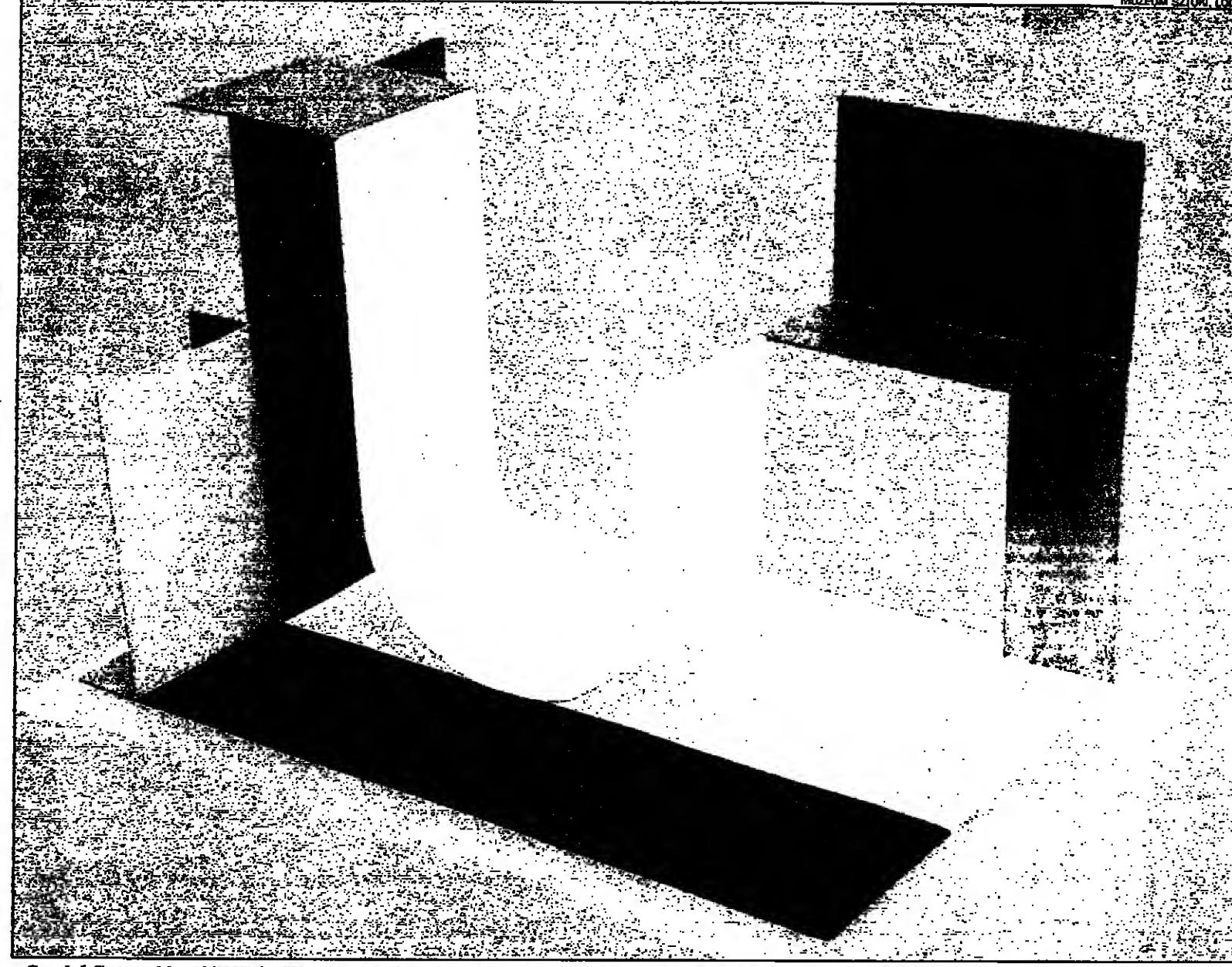
The show is arranged in collaboration with the Muzeum Sztuki in Lodz, which now incorporates the first museum in the world devoted to abstract art, founded by Kobro and Strzeminski in the Thirties. It is through the determination of the museum, and of Kobro's daughter, that her fame has been kept alive since her death in 1951 — both by the conservation and judicious exhibition of the surviving works, and by, more recently, the meticulous reconstruction of works

lost or partially destroyed during the difficult days of the tion and the war, when they were kept in her tiny The 25 works shown in Leeds, a

handful of them present only in photographs of lost originals which do not contain enough information to allow reconstruction. constitute virtually the entire corpus of Kobro's work now in existence.

What, then, is so important about Kobro, that she has become the world's hottest tip for reinstatement in the pantheon of makers and shakers of modern art?

artly the importance is historical: she is the vital link between Constructivism in Russia and Modernist Abstraction in Central Europe. Kobro was born in Russia in 1898. and received her art training in Moscow, becoming a close associate of Malevich and Tatlin in their first experimentation with non-representational form. In 1916 she met Strzeminski in a military hospital, where she was working



Spatial Composition 4 (1929) by Katarzyna Kobro, who was the vital conduit through which Modernism developed independently in Central Europe

as a nurse and he had been placed after being wounded. They married and in 1922, finding the atmosphere of Russia by then increasingly restrictive, resettled in Poland, in Strzymanski's native Lodz.

bro taught applied arts in an industrial training school for women, as well as working in architecture and the theatre. She was the conduit through Throughout the years bewhich a sort of Modernism tween the wars they both parallel to that of De Stijl in worked intensively for mod-Holland developed independ-

ern art, writing, showing their ently in Central Europe, and own work and teaching: Kocontinued to take hold even after it had been completely root-

ed out in Stalinist Russia. This is important. But even more important now is the singular purity and beauty of the work itself. The hanging mobiles continue to move gracefully in the slightest breeze, the

stabiles (as Calder would have called them) occupy their own space with curved and rectilinear shapes which radiate at once dynamism and tranquillity. The later work develops according to an intricate mathematical system of proportions

which she evolved for herself.

based ultimately on the Gold-

sent by concerned friends.

Most are surprisingly buoy-

ant, but Flowers in a Crystal

Vase does look dispirited as

the petals struggle to emerge

The spirit of Modernism at

its most optimistic is evoked in

Matthew Gale's and Chris

Stephens's Barbara Hep-

worth (Tate Gallery, £35), a

scholarly and splendidly illus-

trated catalogue of the Tate's

unrivalled collection of her

work. During the interwar pe-

riod, when she came to maturi-

war drove her to Cornwall.

Hepworth herself appears.

dressed as the sun and moon

Britain in the 20th Century

from the encircling darkness.

en Section. It was clearly a tragedy for art that motherhood and the coming of war forced Kobro to give up serious work. But what does exist is truly magical.

● Henry Moore Institute, 74 The Headrow, Leeds (0113-234 3158). daily 10am-5.30pm (Wed to 9pm), until June 27

Richard Cork turns over the glossy new leaves of a coffee-table crop of lavishly illustrated spring books for art-lovers

Collected works that speak volumes

nder Neil MacGregor's directorship, the National Gallery is flourishing as never before. And to complement the excellence of its shows, display and acquisitions, the gallery is publishing a superb series of catalogues devoted to different aspects of its collection. Its latest volume, The 15th-Century Netherlandish Schools (National Gallery, £55), may sound dry, but the book is a visual delight, backing the author Lorne Campbell's profound scholarship with excellent colour plates.

It serves to underline just how many outstanding Netherlandish paintings from this crucial period are owned by the gallery, even if Campbell is unafraid to demote several familiar images. Often regarded as a masterpiece by Robert Campin, The Virgin and Child before a Firescreen has "many incongruities" and may be "a highly sophisticated pastiche based on several Campinesque prototypes". But the secure authorship of many other pictures is reinforced at length - not least the great Jan van Eyck portrait of Arnolfini and his wife, whose miraculous intensity is revealed in a wealth of detail.

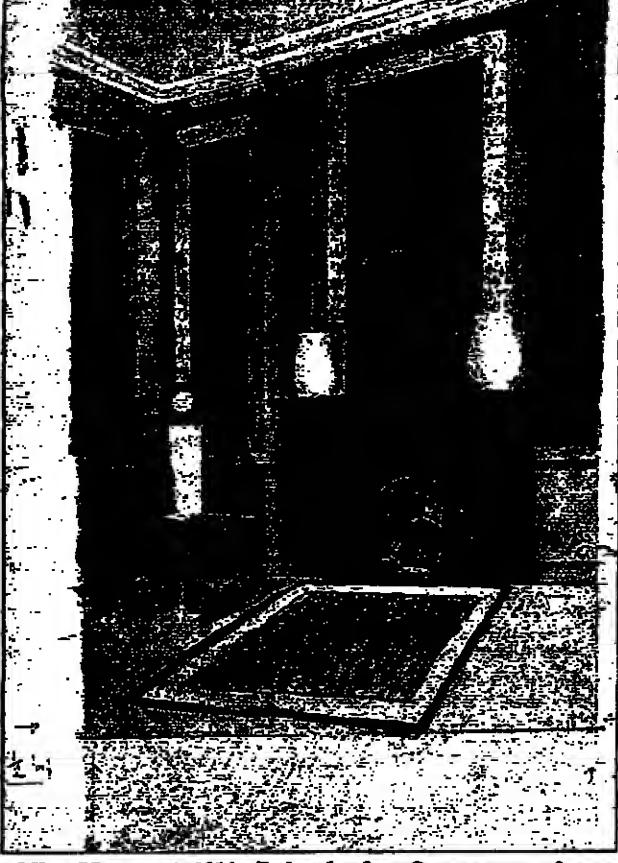
Our national collections are equally rich in paintings produced in the southern Netherlands during the 17th century. Both Rubens and Van Dyck were prized by Charles I, and many of their canvases remain in this country. But Hans Vlieghe, in his comprehensive survey of Flemish Art and Architecture 1585-1700 (Yale, £50), redresses the balance. He places these two masters firmly in the context of their nation's culture, encompassing not only painters as substantial as Jacob Jordaens but a wealth of lesser-known names. The result is constantly illuminating, not least for Vlieghe's discussion of notable sculpture and architecture often overlooked in Britain.

Discoveries also abound in Sybille Ebert-Schifferer's magisterial Still Life: A History (Abrams, £79.95). Rooms full of flower paintings in museums can seem dull, but the truth is that still life has prompted some of the finest achievements in Western art. Ebert-Schifferer takes an admirably wide view, showing how the subject began in classical images of "hospitality gifts" and was then rediscovered during the Renaissance period. Hans Memling's exquisite Ma-

London WCI 0171 323 8783

jolica Vase with Flowers is a pioneering example, but other northern artists such as Barthel Bruyn soon began to explore the darker, mortality-obsessed world of the vanitas. Skulls appear, and in succeeding centuries the concern with death runs hand in hand with a desire to celebrate the natural world. Often the two impulses unite: Caravaggio's Basket of Fruit looks luscious, but signs of decay are detectable on closer scrutiny. Even in David Hockney's 1988 Still Life with Book on a Table, the most recent painting here, attractiveness is countered by a sense of vulnerability. Timed to coincide with the

National Gallery's current survey of Ingres portraits, Aileen Ribeiro's Ingres in Fashion (Yale, E30) offers an excellent accompaniment to the show. Any suspicion that the book might trivialise a great painter is quickly scotched by the searching intelligence of Ribeiro's text. She reveals how seriously Ingres approached the task of depicting the fashionable woman, and how much attention he paid to their clothes. The magnificent illustrations close in on details with such sensuous clarity that readers may well feel impelled to pay



Nina Hamnett's 1916 oil sketch of an Omega room from Tanya Harrod's The Crafts in Britain in the 20th Century

the exhibition a second visit. A more elegiac note is sounded by Robert Gordon's and Andrew Forge's The Last Flowers of Manet (Abradale, £7.95), for these deceptively beguiling little paintings, each concentrating on a few blooms

in a glass vessel, were executed by a dying man. Probably suffering from body-wasting syphilis. Manet was just over 50 when the fatal illness began to erode his strength. Hence the modesty of these canvases, swift studies of bouquets often

(Yale, £45). But Bernard Leach, seen in the same photograph, rightly plays a far more important role in Harrod's text. Her book is a formidable achievement, the first to encompass the full richness and variety of the crafts from before the First World War right up to the late 1980s. She traces an interaction with so-called fine art throughout, most nota-

fecund Cornish soil

bly in the multifaceted work of Eric Gill and the interiors designed by members of Roger Fry's Omega Workshop. Nina Hamnett's oil sketch of an Omega room, published in 1917, shows how Duncan Grant's marquetry tray and

Fry's chair combine with the severely abstract wall paintings to produce an adventurous unity. Crafts nevertheless deserve to be studied in their own right, and Harrod does their history full justice throughout a volume enlivened by more than 500 illustrations. They embrace everything from William Morris's gold, leather-tooled copy of Karl Marx's Le Capital to Jacqueline Poncelet's ebullient

clay and enamel creature, half

human, half animal, and bris-

tling with vitality. ty in London, hopes were high Anyone wanting to revisit for integrating adventurous modern art and architecture the most notorious art-world with a new society. Many of controversies of the past halfcentury can now consult John her finest carvings date from A. Walker's Art & Ontrage that heady period, before the (Pluto, £14.99). All the eruptions are here, from Alfred But she soon found ample inspiration in her new surround-Munnings's splenetic attack on the avant-garde at the Royings. Some of the finest colour al Academy banquet to Marplates show how her sculpture cus Harvey's vilified portrait seems at one with the flowers and plants springing from the of Myra Hindley in the Sensation exhibition. The British appetite for excoriating modern art is so voracious that Walker has no difficulty filling his at a Penwith Society party. in Tanya Harrod's The Crafts in book with venomous assaults

> by hysterical commentators. New buildings can arouse equally acrid passions, and Daniel Libeskind's brilliant proposal for an extension to the Victoria and Albert Museum has already provoked feverish denunciations. But his Jewish Museum in Berlin has now opened, and Bernhard Schneider's book (Prestel, £9.95) reveals its compelling impact. Splintered and punctured on the façade, it offers macabre voids internally. Libeskind has memorialised the Jewish tragedy in an eloquent yet uncompromisingly terse manner, producing a masterpiece of modern architecture right at the century's end.

Top talent on tap

sions and recent West End representa-tion via Jesus Christ Superstar and Doctor Dolittle, Aletta Collins is at the top of the independent dance-makers' ladder. Stephen Hughes, meanwhile, is clambering up it. Both were showcased last week at The Place Theatre, as part of London's Spring Loaded dance festival.

Hughes's trio of works for his Red Rain Dance Theatre secures his spot in the "watch this space" category. Hedo-Scetic observes four young people indulging in a game of dice. Gradually, as booze erodes inhibitions, their initial, post-juvenile behaviour (flashes of flesh. same-sex kisses) slides toward deeper, darker waters. The piece winds up suggesting, rather than revealing, the quartet's more dangerous undercurrents of fantasy, aggression and intimacy. but there is a convincing texture to the on-stage relationships of Hughes, Stephen Berkeley-White. Desiree Kongerød and Stine Nilsen. Where Raging Fires

Meet embroils all five

DANCE

dancers in a set-to between an exhausted wornan and a proprietorial male. Although the dance gets lost up a blind alley of dramatised abstractions, it shows that Hughes is gifted. Mastery of form should follow.

The bill was rounded out by Here Comes Renard, a barnyard battleof-the-sexes sprung from Stravinsky's 1915 "burlesque tale in song and dance", Renard. Imbued with the rough precocity of youth, this jape of a dance underlines Hughes's interest in character and group dynamics. Cast as chickens and foxes, members of Scottish Ballet kept the fur and feathers flying.

The starting point of Collins's double-bill was her kinetic response to the energy coursing through 20th-century American music. Leonard Bernstein's Prelude, Fugue and Riffs percolated beneath the solo Certain Obsessions. Collins brought brash confidence to this throwaway comic paean to a performer's cheesy neuroses.

In Alice is Back in Wonderland, a free-form and humorous spin-off from Lewis Carroll, Collins made fizzy use of Gershwin's glorious Rhapsody in Blue. Her cohorts were the statuesque redheads Anna Williams and Ragnhild Olsen, and Rachel Krische, shortish and brunette like Collins. Resembling a young Woody Allen, complete with spectacles, Krische lent riveting authority and superb timing to the central role. But the others, Collins included, were no slouches. With its stop-go rhythms. her choreography was consistently light and ingenious. Alasdair Graebner's cool, aqueous lighting and Jackie Galloway's airy white pyjama costumes helped to make this one of the most delightful dances in recent memory.

DONALD HUTERA

Fiddling with tradition

__ The Golden Sword --STAMFORD RAFFLES AND THE EAST Adventures, travels and collecting in Southeast Asia sponsored by Standard & Chartered Until 18 April 99 Mon-Sat 10-4-50 Sun 12-5.50 Admission £4 concessions £2 Advance booking 1133 call 0870 840 1111 BRITISH MUSEUM Great Russell Surcer

my best green trousers. I approached the Barbican humming Danny Boy. But once Micheal O'Suilleabhain, Celtic crossover king and Limerick university pro-

fessor, struck up at the piano with the Irish Chamber Orchestra, I lost faith in the magic of Ireland. In pieces like Woodbrook and Ah, Sweet Dancer, usually elaborated from folk materials, his fingers flew daintily over the keyboard, jigging along with jazz embroidery while the orchestra strings mooched through some pastoral chords. Sometimes the strings entered first. sometimes the piano: sometimes a guest artist tootled or bowed on flute or violin. It made little difference; this was an evening of music stranded and lost somewhere between the Irish pub and the hotel

eader, I tried. I wore

cocktail lounge. The strange thing is that considerable erudition lies blanketed behind O'Suilleabháin's bland tinklings. At Limerick he runs the Irish World Music

FESTIVAL

Centre. He organises courses in, among other things, plainmelodies; and has basked in ada, masterly composer and who first opened his ears to freland's folk heritage. A few selections, like a movement from a reworked concerto for tradi-Keegan), drew strength from O Suilleabhain's training. Mostly the drooping sounds left me yearning for a real Irish knees-up, Percy

chant, music therapy and "ethnochoreology". He knows his classics along with his folk the guiding light of Sean O Rigrandfather to the Chieftains, tional musician (flautist Niall

The amplified sound made

it hard to accurately judge the

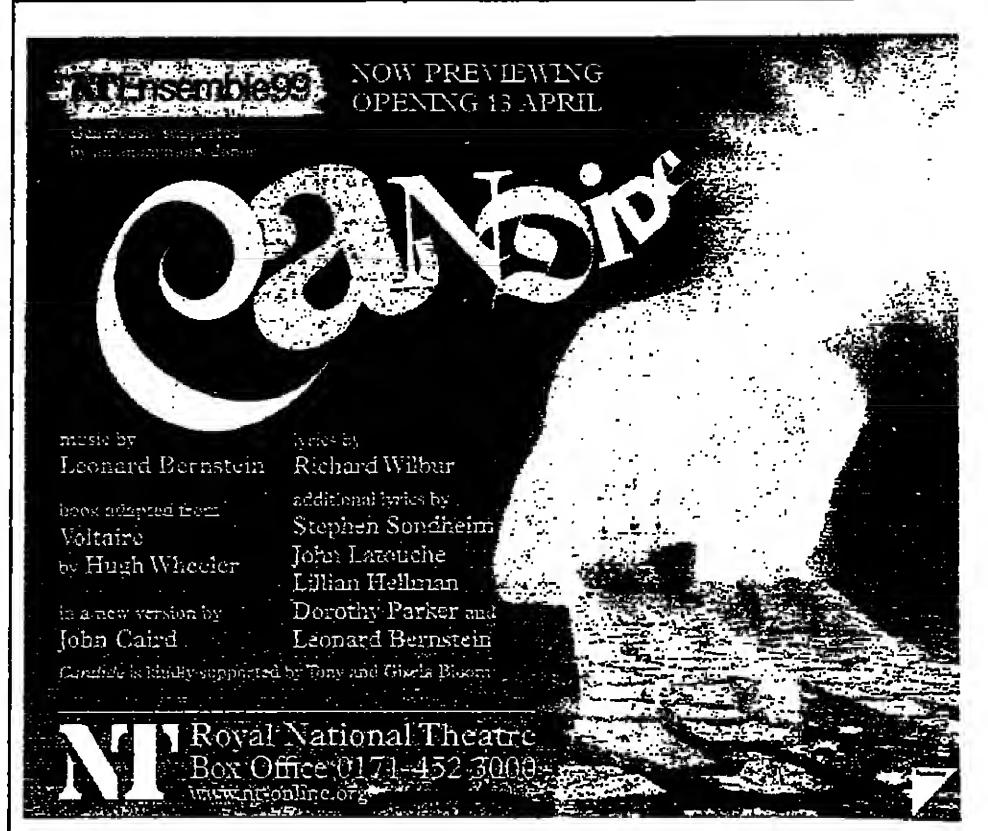
finesse of O'Suilleabhain's pi-

classical Grainger's brisk folk workouts, or perhaps total silence.

ano or the youthful ICO strings. Amplifiers also did strange things to other soloists. Mairead Ní Mhaonaigh. from the Atlan folk group. scraped through on the violin. But the talents of New Zealand harmonica player Brendan Power became swallowed in the reverberations of his own composition, Lament for the 21st Century, a threadbare piece; while Keegan's flute often offered more breath

than notes. The most instructive guest artist, however, was Brian Kennedy, Belfast-born pop singer. When he sang intimately to his guitar, his qualities shone. However, when piano and orchestra kicked in behind him with You Are That Kind of Person and Heart of Stillness, two O'Suilleabhain songs, the voice lost its colour in falsetto somersaults, ungainly bleats, and the strain of singing terrible words. A good night for the sale of Irish ale; a bad one for music.

GEOFF BROWN



ARTS

Spotlight on Giordano

OPERA: In the Italian provinces, Rodney Milnes reassesses the reputation of an unjustly despised composer:

RECOMMENDED TODAY Guide to arts and entertainment compiled by Marit Hargle

LONDON MAMMA MIA!: Musical based on the songs of Abba: Siobhan McCentry and Lisa Stokke play mother and daughter on the eve of the girl's wedding. Phyllida Lloyd directs. Prince Edward (0171-447 5400). Opens tonight, 7pm.

JOHN MEGLEY: The popular comic and bard adds dance to his repertoire. In a week of cabaret-style performancas he is joined by a parade of eclectic performers, with snappels of choreography provided by Wendy Houslour and Maithew Hawkins. The Place (0171-387 0031). Opens

lomght, 8pm. BY MANY WOUNDS: A bnef run to Zimile Harris's first play where parents by to keep one daughter ignorant of the fate of her sister. Hampstead Theatre (0171-722 9301). (3) Opens tonight, 8pm.

ORCHESTRA OF THE AGE OF **ENLIGHTENMENT.** The rising young French contralto Nathalie Stutzmann makes her debut with the renowned penod instrument band in an evering of Corell and Bach, Catherine Mackintosh leads from the violin. Barbican (0171-638 8891). Tonight. 7.30pm. [5]

COMPOSER CHOICE: In lonight's selection by Oliver Knussen the Endymion Ensemble plays a number of Knussen's own pieces logether with works by Stravinsky, Berg. Buson, Maxwell Davies et al. Purcell Roomr(0171-960 4242). Tonight, 7 30pm. (5)

ELSEWHERE GUILDFORD: Nick Wilton, Brian Descon and Edward de Souza star

in Good Company's lour of Samuel



Lisa Stokke stars in the musical Mamma Mia!

Pepys, The Secret Diaries, Suc Pomeroy directs. Yvonne Amaud (1)(483 440(11))). Opens (onight 7.45pm, Until Sat. 8)

READING: The St Peteraburg Ballet Theatre concludes its British lour here with performances of two ballet classics: Swan Lake (tonight, Fri and Sat) and Gisele (tomorrow and Thur). Hexagon (0118 960 6060). Performances at 7,30mm, E)

SALISBURY: Kate O'Mara plays the ageing diva in Anouith's Colombe, a comedy of backstage intrigue and worldy wisdom. Jonathan Church directs Jøremy Sams's new translation. Playhouse (01722 320333), (5) Opens tonight, 7.30pm.

NEW WEST END SHOWS

Jeremy Kingston's choice of theatre showing in London ■ House full, returns only ■ Some seats available □ Seats at all prices

THE GIN GAME. Dorothy Tutin and Joss Ackland play old folk in a reliment home whose card-playing styles echo their sad fives. Fifth Banbury directs a surprising Pulitzer Savoy (0171-636 8888) (5)

THE PRISONER OF SECOND **AVENUE: Richard Oneytuss and** Marsha Mason make their British stage debuts in Neil Smon's play about big city angst.
Theatre Royal, Haymarket (0171-930)

■ GOOD CP Taylor's best play. tracing a liberal professor's gradual descent may working with the Nazis Charles Dance heads a strong cast Michael Grandage directs Donmar (0171-369 1732)

☐ CARD BOYS Even the pests who stick sex cards in phone boxes have dreams of bettering themselves, Mike Packer's spinled play tells us. Bush (0181-743 3388).

☐ 400 JOKES WITH THE DEVIL This is Theatre Alibi's tourning account of Eisenstein's life and career, from the Odessa Steps onwards, includes lootage of his films. Lyric Studio. W6 (0181-741 8701). THE COLONEL BIRD Bulgarian author Higgo Boylchev's award-winning play about an asylum Taken over by the lunance Dalimtety a

Gate (0171-229 0706) THE LION, THE WITCH AND THE WARDROBE Adrian Noble's spectacular production of the first Names adventure comes to lown. Barbican (0171-638 6891). (3) ☐ SACRED HEART: In Mick Mahoney's new play two second-generation insh lads, brought up in NW3, meet again after years estranged. Edward Hall directs.

melaphor Rupait Gould directs

Ambascadors (0171-565 5000). GROSS INDECENCY The Three Trials of Oscar Wilde: Michael Pennington plays Wilde, with William Hoyland and Clive Francis as counsel for and against, in Moises Kaulman's play. Gleigud (0171-484 5065).

FILMS ON GENERAL RELEASE

James Christopher's choice of the latest movies

NEW RELEASES

TEA WITH MUSSOLINI (PG): Flaches of genius and dry humour illuminate Zeffirelli's sentimental indute to the culture-mad English spinsters who raised the director in Florence before Mussofini jailed them. With Maggie Smith, Joan Plowright, and Judi Dench.

PLUNKETT & MACLEANE (15): Jake Scott's 18th-century swashbuckler is closer to Buich Cassidy and the Sundance kid than The Rake's Procress With Robert Carlyle and Jonny Lee Miller.

BLAST FROM THE PAST (12): Ingervous comedy about a man (Brendan Fraser) released after 35 years in a nuclear bunker. His 1950s values make him look mystical, mad, and blindingly naive in the sleazy 1990s. Bill Kelly directs.

BEYOND SILENCE (12): Plucky performances can't save this: a tortuous trawl through a German scap in which a young girl irles to get a life beyond her prolougidly deat

THE NIGHT OF THE HUNTER (12): Charles Laughton's one and only stab at directing is a Tom Sawyer versus Sweeney Todd nightmare. Robert Mitchum's crooked prescher

parents. Caroline Link directs

is unforgetiable. An absolute classic

AUGUST IN THE WATER (ICA): You could hang Sogo ishii's sumed Japanese science iichon in ine reie. Il s i beautiful, inscrutable look at a city cursed by drought and a mysterious epidemic that turns the guts to stone. CURRENT

GODS AND MONSTERS (15): lan McKellen excels as a legendary horror movie director who grooms his gardener (Brenden Fraser) for a role

ter darker than that of over-muscled escort. Bill Condon directs. AMERICAN HISTORY X (18): Edward Norton is teroclously compelling as a white supremacist skinhead in Tony Kaye's levish, controversial but doorned attempt to get under the skin

PAYBACK (18): Mel Gébson blasts his way through Brian Helgeland's chunky theer. With Gregg Henry, William Devane, James Cobum and Kris Kristoflerson.

of an American tragedy.

THE RUGRATS MOVIE (U): Painless. big cartoon adventure in which ferting toddiers bond in a spooky lorest. Witty enough for adults; an unavoidable necessity for three to eight-year-olds.

Right between the ears

n the field of German opera it has become a clichẻ to remark that a colossus of the stature of Wagner causes fearful problems for his successors. Where on earth do you go from there? We still do not quite know: composers went to atonality. Neo-Classicism, Expressionism, even Post-Modernism. It is less of a cliché to note the same situation in an Italy emerging from the shadow of Verdi, especially since his successor, Puccini, cast almost as long a shadow, and it is tempting simply to write off the latter's contemporaries as second-raters. Some of them were (did I hear you mention Cilea? Or Alfano?) but not all, and we honestly do not hear enough of them to make a balanced judgment. Zandonai — Giulietta e Romeo, Francesca da Rimini. I cavalieri di Ekebu — sounds more and more like the musical equivalent of d'Annunzio, with all that that implies, in-

cluding the implication that he cannot simply be written off. And Giordano is a big problem. His operas are regularly staged, everywhere; stuffier commentators dump on them just as regularly, and still they get staged. It might be an exaggeration to call Fedora the worst opera ever written, but it is among the worst operas regularly performed. Andrea Chénier is the one that resolutely refuses to go away: you

can pick holes in its dramaturgy - the characters of Bersi, Roucher and the spy Incredibile have no real function; you can pick holes in the music — Giordano is sparing with tunes, which seldom last for more than a couple of bars and (understandably) seldom come back. But Chenier itself keeps on coming back: singers love to sing it audiences love to hear it.

A younger and wiser friend once told me I might understand its appeal if I heard a good provincial performance in a good provincial Italian opera house, and the opportunity to do so in Parma last weekend, followed by Giordano's much later La cena delle beffe down the road in Bologna. proved irresistible. just as my mentor was proved right. If you — and the performers approach Chénier as a good, loud sing and no more, then it has a lot to commend it.

Ivan Stefanutti's production had no truck with earnest realism or encouraging singers to take part in serious drama: they faced out front and let the audience have it between the eyes, with a toss of the head and twitch of outstretched arms at the end of numbers to elicit applause. Stefanutti's set showed a good section of a Parisian quartier, richly detailed, beautifully painted, dimly lit. The complete lack of pretension allowed what gut-

strength the piece has to shine through. And Nicola Martinucci's Chenier was much more than just provincial: his baritonal tenor is richly coloured, he never screams (though he has all the requisite powerful top notes), and he phrases almost more musical-

It is easy to forget that Chénier (1896) is a young man's opera — Giordano was less than 30 — and came well before Tosca. La cena delle beffe, or "Feast of Fools", (1924), is quite a different kettle of verismo: it was an education to hear what can happen to a composer in nearly 30 years.

ly than the notes deserve. A

good rumbustious evening.

The runes — and they are good - do more than just start: they develop and conclude as logically as Puccini's. The orchestration is often spare and subtle - Giordano had been listening to Debussy. The dramaturgy is taut and to the point, the action based closely on a play by Sem Benelli. The subject is a wham-bam revenge melodrama, with bags of sex, stabbing and madness, both feigned and real. Maybe it does not aim too high, but it knows where it is going and

gets there. It was quite superbly performed in Bologna. The director Liliana Cavani updated the action from the Florence of

Lorenzo the Magnificent to the present day: the opening least was in what looked like one of those city banks converted into a cocktail club, crammed with yuppies who threw bread-rolls and smoked cigarettes - you knew they were wrong uns.

he heroine's boudoir, where much of the sex'n'stabbing takes place, was the last word in designer chic, and the scene where the hard-drinking, womanising villain undergoes primitive aversion therapy by being made to confront his victims was horribly creepy. The whole mise-en-

scene carried conviction.

Cena is as hard to sing as Chenier, and there was a quite . overwhelming performance IA from the young Sardinian soprano Paoletta Marrocu, of whom we will hear more: firm, bright tone, quite unfazed either by the role's difficulties or by the fact that she had to spend a lot of the time in deshabillé. Alberto Cupido did honourably in the strenuous role of the avenger, and Marco Chingari smouldered dangerously as his victim. Roberto Polastri conducted with flair, and the sound in the acoustically lively Teatro Comunale was rich and rare. Late Giordano will obviously repay further investigation.



A feast of fun: the cast pull out all the stops in Giordano's La cena delle beffe at the Teatro Comunale in Bologna

Vivian Tierney as Salome rejoices in her gruesome prize

Dance to a brutal death

ichard Strauss's operatic genius lay at least partly in his ability to conjure up both beauty and violence more vividly than almost any other composer. He wrote some of the most erotic music for the stage, and also some of the most depraved. But that depravity has rarely seemed as strong as in English National Opera's latest revival of Salome: if the success of a performance can be judged on how uncomfortable it leaves

you feeling, this one is a winner. The "yuk-factor" in David Leveaux's 1996 staging is very high indeed, but never for gratuitous reasons. In fact, the production is sombre, and although it dispenses with all the Moreau-like, symbolist imagery of tradition, it remains true to many of the original stage directions unusually, there is evidence of the sumptuous banqueting at Herod's palace.

Vicki Mortimer's set is dominated by a tall, crumbling brick wall, suggestive of a decaying regime, as are the costumes, which evoke the period of the opera's premiere (Dresden, 1905) and the reign of Kaiser Wilhelm II. It's all very ugly, and Jokanaan is kept prisoner in little more than a drain.

Salome Coliseum'

Leveaux's production is a study of people on the edge of an "end game" and the omens that so trouble Herod oppress everyone else 100. Characters are - literally, given the prominent place of a ladder in the set - climbing the wall. At the centre of everything is a wildly dysfunctional family: this is about much more than the sexual fantasies of a mixed-up teenager. Yet the staging never goes beyond what is already in the score, and that would have pleased a composer who once said: "The music is disgusting enough already".

Under David Atherron, the orchestra gives its all. This is a heavy-breathing performance, but one of great flexibility that moves with the drama, and there is also clarity in those moments of diaphanous beauty. Almost every word comes across. no mean feat in such a dense score. There have been more glowing accounts of the music, but they would be out of place in this interpretation: even Salome's Dance

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is more suggestive of brutality than sexual

But then, as performed by Vivian Tierney, there is little eroticism in the dance. She is a singing-actress quite capable of providing it, but instead plays the character as more than an obstinate, sex-crazed girl. Perhaps her Salome is sometimes too knowing or self-composed. Tierney's is not an ideal Salome soprano, lacking the radiant sweep required for the big moments, yet she does project her lines with fresh impetuosity, and she makes much of the quieter moments.

Matthew Best, recovering from a chest cold, sounded a little woolly yet was still impressive in his first performance as the zealot Jokanaan. In another role debut John Graham-Hall sang strongly as a debauched Herod, going over the top in his ageing brat characterisation only towards the end. Elizabeth Vaughan's Herodias just avoids caricature despite her Cruella De Vil-meets-Barbara Cartland get-up. and with Mark Le Brocq as Narraboth and Ethna Robinson an incisive Page, this is a good ENO ensemble.

JOHN ALLISON

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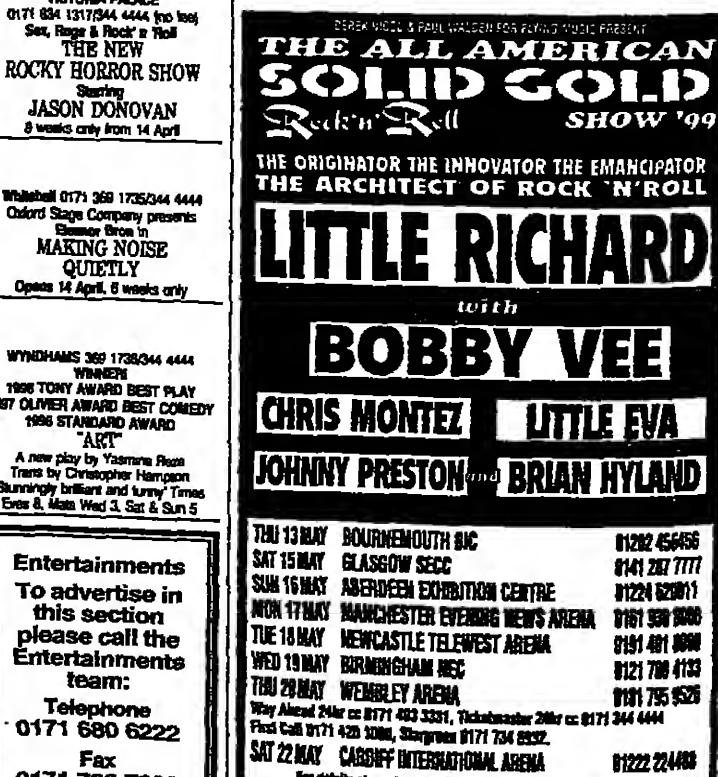
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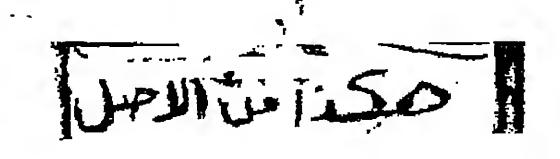
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Caro



Cherie sooth, QC, with Pamela Phelps after the High Court awarded Ms Phelps damages because her local education authority failed to spot her dyslexia

Lost chances: who pays?

na Collins, an adopon administrator. hs been struggling t get her 14-year-old dyslexic so. Andrew, a good education ince he was at junior school. Ier local education authority (EA) in East London disagres with an independent psyhologist's assessment that te boy has organisational projems and suffers from the wird and number blindness codition.

"Andrew sed to have tantrums and culdn't remember things proply." Ms Collins says. "After a started secondary school, we took him to the Dyslexia Instute, which diagnosed the codition."

The eduction authority eventually ageed to offer six hours a welkearning support on top of hanstream schooling, but after a few months, Ms Collin says, this broke down. Thee s now a dispute between pychologists for the LEA and or Ms Collins over what sort [schooling is appropriate. M Collins wants to take the elication authority to court. "Paple like us have nowhere elsto go except court." she says We can't afford to pay thouands of pounds a year for ecialist schooling." Yet as je law stands, even if an LEA sychologist or other professicals have been negli-

The nonitoring of

says Alison Clarke

staffheeds regulation,

monitofin shops are part of modern life.

But whe an employer uses such means

to wate staff without their knowledge.

In a tent case, Tom Spamer, the Uni-

son brach secretary at Leeds Metropoli-

tan Unersity, represented two cleaners

and a surity officer in disciplinary hear-

ings aff they were monitored by hidden

camerainstalled by the university. His

membe found out about the surveil-

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dealin Mr Spamer said that no evi-

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tions he university said only that it

"had uld covert cameras on three occa-

sions see they became available in 1995.

On eadoccasion, they have been used af-

ter stree prima facie evidence of illegal

activition university premises and on

two ocsions on the advice of the police."

Successert surveillance can damage

working relationships, according to

Mike mmott, an employment adviser

with the Institute of Personnel and Devel-

opmen He is critical of employers who

do notell staff that they are being

Q'EEN'S COUNSEL

the lawerrounding it becomes murky.

surveillance and television

Many parents who seek special education for their children have to go to court. Danny Lee reports

gent in assessing a child's needs, the authority may not be held liable to pay compensation for lost chances in life. Jack Rabinowicz, a partner of Teacher Stern & Selby, says: "Hundreds of similar claims are waiting to go to court." Mr Rabinowicz acts for

Pamela Phelps, a 25-year-old dyslexic, who last November saw the Court of Appeal overturn the £46,650 damages the High Court had awarded her in a landmark ruling when she claimed that her local authority had been negligent for failing to identify her dyslexia. Her action, which is awaiting leave to appeal to the Lords, is the pivot on which all the other cases turn.

Meanwhile, the law has been left in a state of confusion. Mr Rabinowicz says: "I hope the House of Lords will clarify whether you can sue in these sorts of cases. But the other strand to this is the right to education under the Human Rights Act, which seems to suggest that even if the Lords say that people can't sue, under the Act they may be entitled to

sue in any event." Central to the reversal of the

High Court's decision was Lord Justice Stuart-Smith's ruling that the trial judge "had not asked himself whether [the psychologist) had voluntarily assumed responsibility for advising [Phelps] through her parents. Her duty was to advise the school and the local education authority. Merely because [Phelps] was the object of that advice and the parents

sumption of responsibility. "The court ought to be slow to superimpose on a duty which the employee owed to his employer, a further duty towards the plaintiff, in the absence of very clear evidence that the employee had undertaken such responsibility."

were told what the advice was,

did not amount to such an as-

been given hope the High Court decision in the Phelps in September 1997, a ruling that had broken new ground in finding that the educational psychologist employed by the local authority owed a duty of care to the pupil she assessed. Even if that decision is reinstated, peo-

Worksop College for negligence in failing to recognise her dyslexia. He points out that although suing a fee-paying school introduces a conple who have suffered from untractual element into the diagnosed dyslexia will not auclaim, possibly avoiding the tomatically be able to sue. It is need to show a duty of care. accepted across the board that the arguments about causadyslexia is a developing issue tion and the questions of what and schools cannot reasonably the person would have become be expected to have always had the dyslexia been properly known about it. dealt with remain the same. The Phelps case will, there-John Morrell, a Vizards partner who mainly defends in fore, be highly significant for

such cases and acts for the Ms Dwyer. LEA in the Phelps case, takes a Although it will be even pragmatic view. "Are we all gomore relevant to Ms Collins, ing to be entitled to blame it may be too late. She says: someone for what happened "We now have only 18 months -20 or 30 years ago?" he says. left for Andrew to make up He highlights another probfor seven years." lem with liability in dyslexia

E-mail:lawpage@the-times.co.uk

Silk should not be cut but overseen by the Bar

David

n Maundy Thursday the Lord Chan-cellor. Lord Irvine of Lairg, made his annual announcement of which lawyers have been promoted to the rank of Queen's Counsel. There are few more pleasurable moments in a barrister's career than appointment as a QC. And there are few more dismal experiences than opening a letter of rejection from the Lord Chancellor. But whether or not they have been awaiting judgment on their application, lawyers are finding it increasingly difficult to justify a sys-tem by which distinction in a profession is

determined by a government minister.

Each year about 500 barristers (and a few solicitors who specialise in advocacy) apply to be made a QC (or to "take silk"). About 70 applicants are successful receiving letters patent confirming that they are "learned in the law and conferring the right to sit in the front row in court. There may be other incidental benefits: the 1979 Royal Commission on Legal Services suggested that "some support their applications for silk

emphasising the need for a reduction in their workload". Sir William Holdsworth explained in A History of English Law that Elizabeth I appointed the first Queen's Counsel, including Francis Bacon, to assist the attorneygeneral in giving legal advice to the monarch. During the 18th century, selection as a Queen's (or King's) Counsel became, as Lord Watson suggested in a Privy Council judgment in 1897, "in the nature of an honour or dignity", a recognition of "professional eminence". In 1920 the last remaining historical link with the orig-

with medical certificates

inal purpose of the honour was removed: a KC no longer had to obtain permission before accepting a brief to appear against the Crown. Today the only link with the monarch is that newly appointed silks are invited to a royal garden party at Buckingham Palace.

The system of appointment of silks has been greatly improved in recent years. Decisions are no longer made by reference to irrelevant factors, as at the beginning of the 19th century when Lord Eldon is said to have delayed the appointment of Brougham and Denman because they had acted for Queen Caroline. The procedure has been made more open, with wider consultation, and with published criteria for selection, so removing some of the more objectionable features of a system memorably described in 1992 by the then Chairman of the Bar, Gareth Williams, QC (now Lord Williams of Mostyn, a minister in the Home Office), as

based on "the Franz Kafka school of business management".

Mistakes are still made, both in appointing unworthy candidates and in rejecting meritorious applicants. Happily, however, the Lord Chancellor's Department (LCD) has avoided any repetition of the 1993 disaster when two counsel with the same surname applied for silk, one was successful and one unsuccessful, and each was sent the letter intended for the other.

Andrew Dismore, a Labour MP, is leading a campaign to abolish the rank of Queen's Counsel. He contends that it is an "anachronistic distinction" that serves only to "give lawyers more money" at public expense, because it is the State that pays the cost of administering the appointments system. There are no "Queen's Dentists", so why should there be Queen's Counsel?

Lawyers, and the public, should oppose any suggestion of abolishing a mark of expertise that assists solicitors and clients to identi-

fy those barristers who are capable of handling the more difficult cases and that helps the LCD when assessing candidates for judicial office. Mr Dismore's complaint that some of those chosen are not up to the job simply recognises the universal truth that any system which depends on human judgment will inevitably involve mistakes - even, on rare occasions, in the selection of MPs. Concern about the higher fees charged by QCs ignores the inevitability in a market economy that the best barristers will be in greater demand and will charge accordingly. As to Mr Dismore's complaint

about the expense of administering the system, the Bar Council has agreed in principle to bear that burden.

Though the rank of QC should not be abolished, there is a strong case for removing the role of a government department in the making of appointments. The Bar values its independence. It is, then, difficult to justify a system by which promotion to a senior status is dependent on the advice of civil servants and the decision of a politician, however wide the consultation. The Bar itself should decide the relevant policies, criteria and procedures, and should create an appointments panel consisting of eminent lawyers and distinguished non-lawyers to determine which applications should be approved. The rank of Queen's Counsel could and should be replaced by a rank of Senior Counsel.

● The author is a practising barrister and a Fellow of All Souls College, Oxford.

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Does new technology invade privacy?

Employees under surveillance

watched ... although most forms of electronic monitoring are legitimate.

In 1997 the European Court ruled that under the European Convention on Human Rights, Alison Halford, a senior police officer, had her right to privacy infringed by her employer's interception of private telephone calls that she made from her office.

But Michael Ford, a barrister who recently wrote a report on surveillance and

MUST DASH. THAT'LL BE

cation of the Convention in the workplace. He says: "It would not be safe to rely on the incorporation of the |Convention] to offer protection against anything other than the most blatant forms of infringement of privacy at work, not least because the term 'privacy' is so ill-defined.. The more workers are subject to constant intrusive surveillance, the harder it becomes to contend that they have a reasonable expectation of privacy." The law cannot embrace all the issues to which surveillance may give rise.

privacy at work for the Institute of Em-

ployment Rights, is sceptical about appli-

and similar cases. "How can

on the educational psycholo-

quantifying loss should not

prevent a person being able to

make a claim, according to

John Davis, a partner at Irwin

Mitchell. He says: "In looking

at the loss in general terms,

dyslexia cases are no different

from many other actions, such

as medical negligence claims

Mr Davis is acting for

19-year-old Hannah Dwyer.

who is suing the £8,000-a-year

for failed surgery."

gist's part led to loss?"

you establish that any failure

Establishing causation and

What is acceptable in one workplace — CCTV for the protection of transport workers, for example - might be intrusive in another. Despite these caveats, Mr Ford does not think that the law is generally powerless. "Legislation can address specific problems and specific practices which infringe aspects of autonomy," he says. "The Data Protection Act 1998 is a welcome example, extending the opportunities for workers and their unions to find out what information is being kept on them and how it is being used."

Collective bargaining is, Mr Ford contends, the best way of regulating surveillance with a little help from the law. But he believes that employers will continue to have a more or less unconstrained right to introduce new surveillance technologies in the workplace.

Steuart & Francis

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Further details can be obtained from the Secretary of the Appointments Committee for the Faculty of Law. 10 West Road, Cambridge CB3 90Z, to whom applications, a curriculum vitae and the names of three referees should be sent by 26 April 1999.

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eschevis the trappings of more traditional firms, offering a dynamic and progressive working environment. (Ref. 20999) ZMR

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ASSISTANT RECORDERSHIP

The Lord Chancellor invites applications from suitably qualified persons to serve as Assistant Recorders in England and Wales from 1 April 2000.

Assistant Recorders are expected to sit judicially for at least 20 days a year. They are usually authorised to sit in the Crown Court in the first instance, and may later be authorised to sit also in the county courts. In a very small number of cases, the Lord Chancellor may authorise an Assistant Recorder to sit in the county courts only.

Applicants must have held a right of audience in the Crown Court or the county courts for a period of ten years and should normally be aged between 35 and 53 on 1 April 2000.

The Lord Chancellor will appoint the candidates who appear to him to be best qualified regardless of ethnic origin, gender, marital status, sexual orientation, political affiliation, religion or (subject to the physical requirements of the office) disability.

An application form, together with a job description and note of the criteria for appointment, and further information for applications, is available by telephoning 0171 210 1481/0630 (voicemail outside office hours) or by writing to:

> Assistant Recorder Appointments Judicial Group Division 1 Lord Chancellor's Department Selborne House 54/60 Victoria Street LONDON SWIE 6QW (e-mail: jag.lcdhq@gmet.gov.uk)

The estimated number of vacancies will not be settled until much later in the process. However, vacancies are expected to arise on all Circuits.

Each applicant may apply in respect of one Circuit only and completed application forms must be returned by noon on the following dates:

- applications for South Eastern Circuit: Friday 7 May 1999
- applications for Midland and Oxford and Western Circuits: Friday 25 June 1999
- applications for North Eastern, Wales and Chester and Northern Circuits: Friday 8 October 1999



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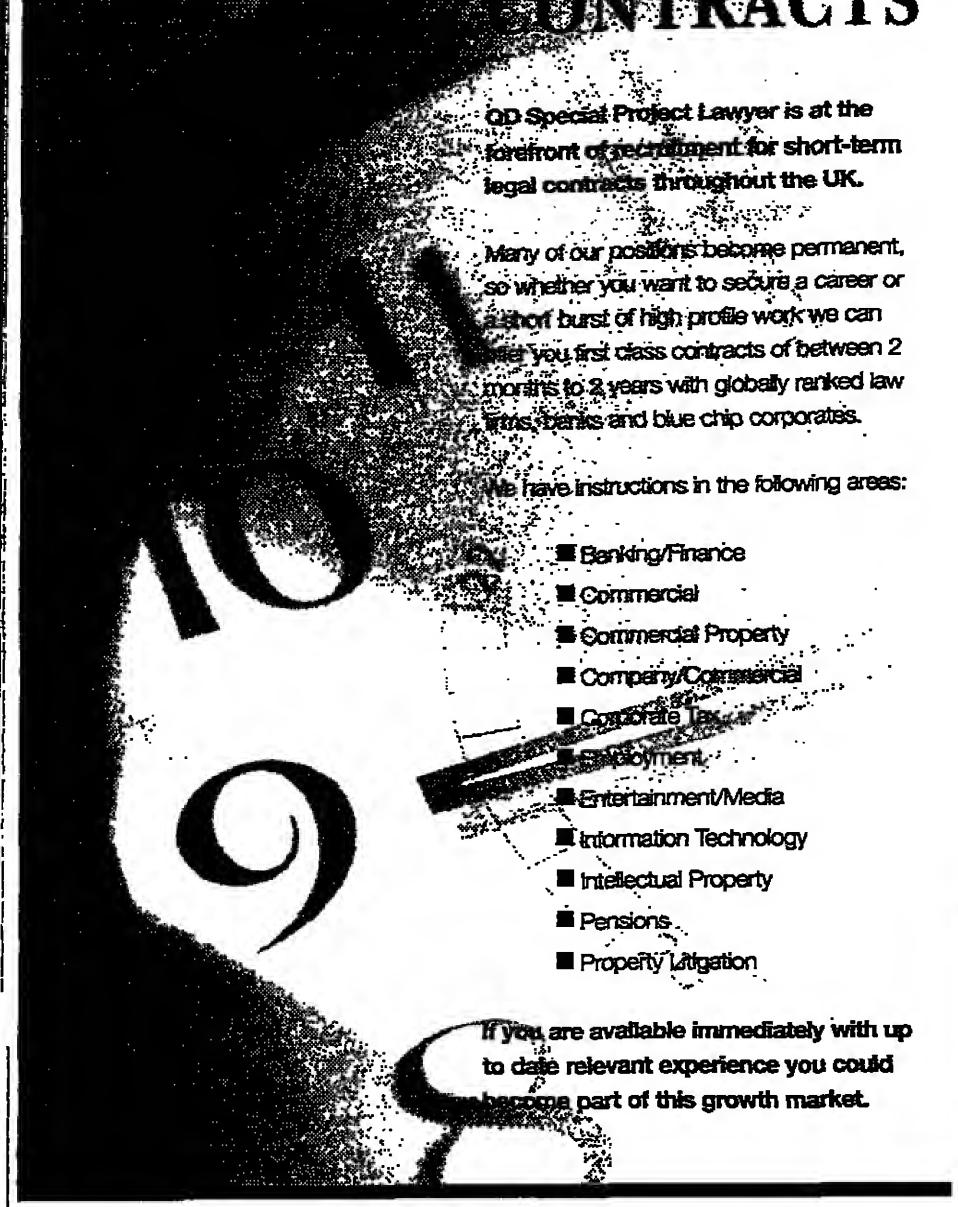
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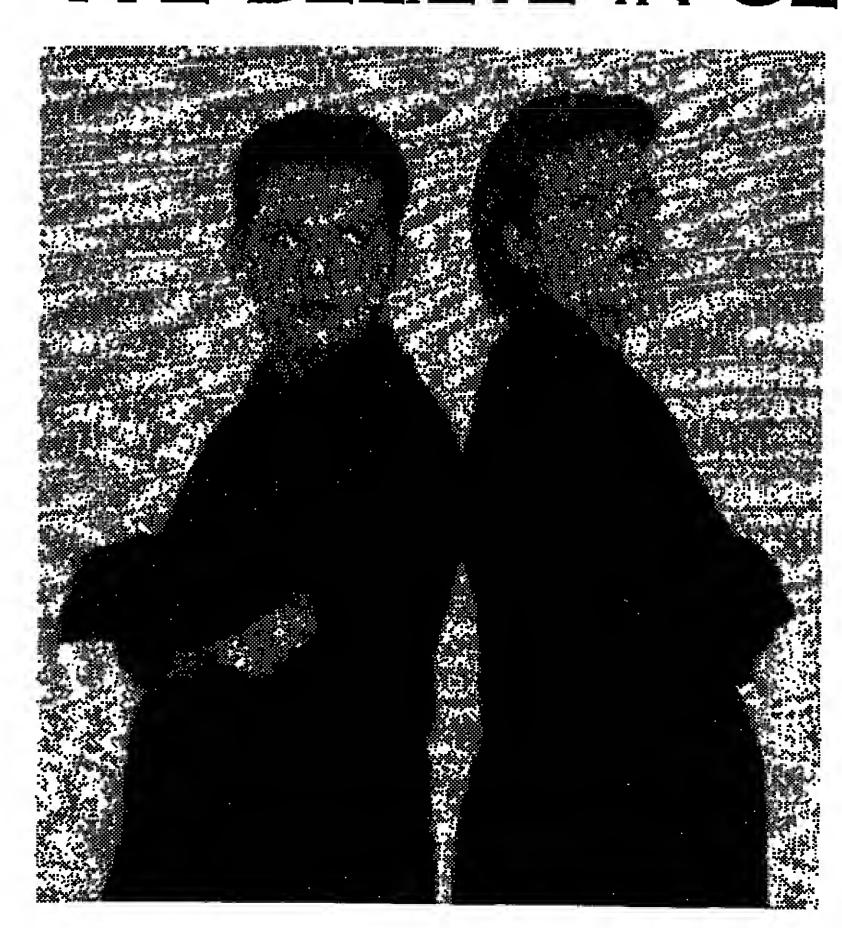
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Application forms, together with job description and recruitment notes are available fron: The Cayman Islands Government Office, 6 Arlington Street, London SW1A 1RE. Tel: 0171 491 7779.

Completed application forms with a curriculum vitae should be returned by 23rd April 1999.

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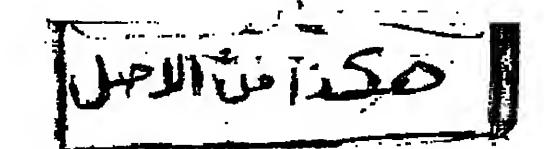
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Closing date for applications is 20th April 1999.

CLIFFORD CHANCE



IN BRIEF

Retail start-ups

at nine-year low

Time to get to grips with late payers

Henrietta Lake says small firms are still facing

problems despite publication of worst offenders

The naming and shaming of public companies last week in league tables showing how long it took them to pay their bills was a useful step towards improving the culture of late payment that grips the UK and cripples so many businesses. Small and medium-sized firms, 6,000 of which went to the wall last year because of late payment, are being encouraged to refer to the tables before they start doing business with a new customer.

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The fact that so many companies, such as Bovis Homes and Staveley Industries to name but two, have been so eager to justify their poor ranking and explain away their payment delays shows that the Federation of Small Businesses, which published the tables, is succeeding in putting late payment of debts higher up the agenda of

larger i quoted companies. However, the companies, over 6,000 of them, that should really be hanging their heads in shame are the ones not in the league table at all. Since March 1997, companies have been obliged to disclose in their annual report the average time it takes them to pay their bills, but companies such as Tesco, Zeneca, GEC and Glazo were nowhere to be seen. The league tables also aim

MYSIMEE

to reinforce the new legislation on late payment, which gives small firms with fewer than 50 employees the right to charge interest on late payment. However, Andrew Godfrey,

of Grant Thornton, the accountant, said: "The late payment legislation is frankly an irrelevance." He added: "In order to tack-

le the problem better, smaller companies need to pay more attention to their procedures." Research has shown that over one third of small and medium-sized companies do

people they do business with. Peter Rowe, chairman of the Institute of Credit Management (ICM), said: "If you haven't got a contract that includes payment terms, how can you possibly expect people to pay you on time?"

not have contracts with the

Discussion of the payment terms should be part of the initial negotiation over price and delivery with the customer. For goods and services that are paid for quickly, compa-

nies might consider charging a lower price. "Make payment terms and stick to them. Invoice quickly and accurately after delivery,"

said Mr Rowe.

THE TROUBLE 15

ME GROW BIGGER

Appollonius Nooten-Boom, managing director of Hean Studios, which makes gold



and platinum hinges for jewel-

lery, says most of his bills are

paid late. However, the Here-

fordshire family business,

which has 16 employees and

turnover of £2.3 million, uses a

surcharge to spur clients to action. He says: "I find that the sur-

charge of 2 per cent on invoices

which are a week late usually

Mr Rowe still recommends

Experts also give warning of

brings in an influx of cheques."

the traditional credit check be-

the danger in overselling.

Many firms are now involving

their salespeople in the collec-

tion of debt and not paying

their sales commission until

conduct credit management

over the telephone, and The Bet-

ter Payment Practice Group is to

launch a series of nationwide

seminars on credit management

in June. They say it is important

to find out the name of the per-

son that authorises the cheques

and to try to get to know them.

BPP seminars: 0171-369 9333

LINKS

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BT runs a course on how to

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fore starting business.



حكدا سالاصل

Appollonius Nooten-Boom says using a surcharge usually brings an influx of cheques

Varied past is a help

BY HENRIETTA LAKE

THE capacity to turn ideas into money does not necessarily come from dedicating a life to one profession.

Many entrepreneurs, such as Howard Hodgson, who went from undertaking to cigarette lighters, have enjoyed varied careers that have contributed to their success. Philip Stanley, founder of Na-

tionwide Cellular Fit, and an entrant to the Entrepreneur of the Year competition, believes that his experiences in different professions have helped him to understand his customers and to produce a sought-after product. Before setting up NCF, which installs mobile telephones into cars, vans and lorries and has a turnover of £8 million, he was a fireman, a double-glazing salesman, a plumber, a nightclub owner and an antiques dealer. However, in 1990 he spotted

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an opportunity installing car phones and set up NCF at his home in Colchester, Essex, achieving El million turnover in the first year. NCF now installs 85,000 phones a year and employs 90 full-time staff and 160 contract engineers. After three years, it turned to the London Enterprise Agency for help in financing its rapid growth. The agency put NCF in touch with

PricewaterhouseCoopers. accountant, which helped to attract venture-capital backing.

Richard Lea-Hair

The dynamic growth of the firm is largely down to its founder's irreverant approach to business: "I'm not a details man. I'try to concentrate on the strategy and have a great team that mops up after me." Mr Stanley prides himself

on being a great motivator of staff, even walking round the office asking people if they were "smiling on the phone" to customers, handing them £5 every time they did so.

Application forms for Entrepreneur of the Year are available on 0845-604 1012. Entrepreneurs can nominate themselves or be nominated. All applications must be in by April 30.



WEBSITE: www.eoy.co.uk

Dun & Bradstreet, the credit reference agency, added to the gloom by reporting a 21 per cent rise in business failures in the first three months of this year, compared with the same quarter of last year.

with a decline of 15 per cent be-

tween 1998 and 1990. This is in

sharp contrast to larger retailers, who have seen a 36 per cent rise in sales in the same period.

An early warning is being sounded by accountants to employers concerning the administrative burdens of the new working families tax credit, which will be introduced next year. Horwath Clark Whitehill is alerting employers that they have one year to prepare for the administrative burden. From April 2000, it will be the employer's responsibility to pay the new tax credits to employees, together with wages and salaries.

■ Manchester Business School has launched its annual Entrepreneurship Project, which gives companies and individuals the chance to tap into the talents of managers on the school's MBA programme. These managers will help to research markets. produce a business plan and identify how best to set up and resource a venture. Contact Kate Todd on 0161-275 6535.

ERIC PEARCE, a retired busi-

nessman living in Hertford-

shire, acts as a "business an-

gel" and adviser to local

small businesses. He says

small firms deserve a better

service from their banks.

Start-ups in the retail sector

are at their lowest level for

nine years, according to the lat-est research from Barclays

Bank. Increased competition. high overheads and falling

consumer confidence are col-

lectively making this sector un-

attractive to potential entrepre-

Smaller retailers have experi-

enced a continual fall in sales,

neurs, the bank says.

■ Lloyds and NatWest have extended their services to small businesses. Lloyds has launched a new internet banking site that has no set-up fee and a monthly charge of £5 plus the cost of phone calls. For details, go to: www.lloydsbank.co.uk. Nat-West has extended its telephone direct banking service, now open 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. Call 0845-603 0110.

"I find the attitude of the main British clearing banks particularly galling when you compare it with the service offered to small businesses in many other countries.

"Banks here go on about all the firms they have helped to get off the ground. but the reality is that they lend at such ridiculously high rates for a guaranteed fast return with about three or four times cover for the

amount borrowed. "I've done business abroad and been very impressed by the different attitude adopted there. The American and many European banks invest in start-ups and stay with the business, retaining part of the share capital, or give longterm low-interest loans."



Pearce: loan rates too high

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Japanese firms

RESULTS AND STATISTICS

TODAY Interims: none sched-

Finals: Dinkie Heel, Walk-Greenbank, Clive Thompson.

Economics: UK Engineering Employers Federation business trends survey (Q1); UK Confederation of British industry quarterly service sector survey; UK Society of Motor Manufacturers and Traders new car registrations (March).

TOMORROW

Interims: none sched-

Cards, Dewhirst Group, Moss Bros Group, Oasis Stores.

Economics: UK Halifax survey UK industrial/ (March); manufacturing output (February); UK Chartered Institute of Purchasing & Supply service sector survey (March); UK provisional MO (March): UK official (end-March): Bank of England Monetary Policy Committee two-day meeting begins.

THURSDAY

Interims: none sched-Policy Master. Finals: Laird Group, Silentnight Holdings, Swallowfield, Tempus Group. **Economics:** UK housing starts (three months to February); Bank of Eng-

FRIDAY interims: none sched-

land Monetary Policy Com-

mittee rate decision.

Finals: none scheduled. Economics: no UK data scheduled.





Moss Bros frayed at edges

MOSS BROS: Final results from the Cecil Gee, Blazer and Savoy Taylors Guild menswear group tomorrow are likely to reflect the fierce competition in the high street for the past year.

Brokers are forecasting a small downturn in pre-tax profits on last year's £19.6 million. Estimates range from £16.2 million to £17.5 million.

In October Rowland Gee. chief executive, reported a drop in pre-tax profits from £5.79 million to £5.67 million. This was achieved despite an increase in sales from £61.25 million to £66.28 million. The setback was blamed on heavy discounting of lines during the summer because of the drop in consumer confidence, poor weather and competitive pressures.

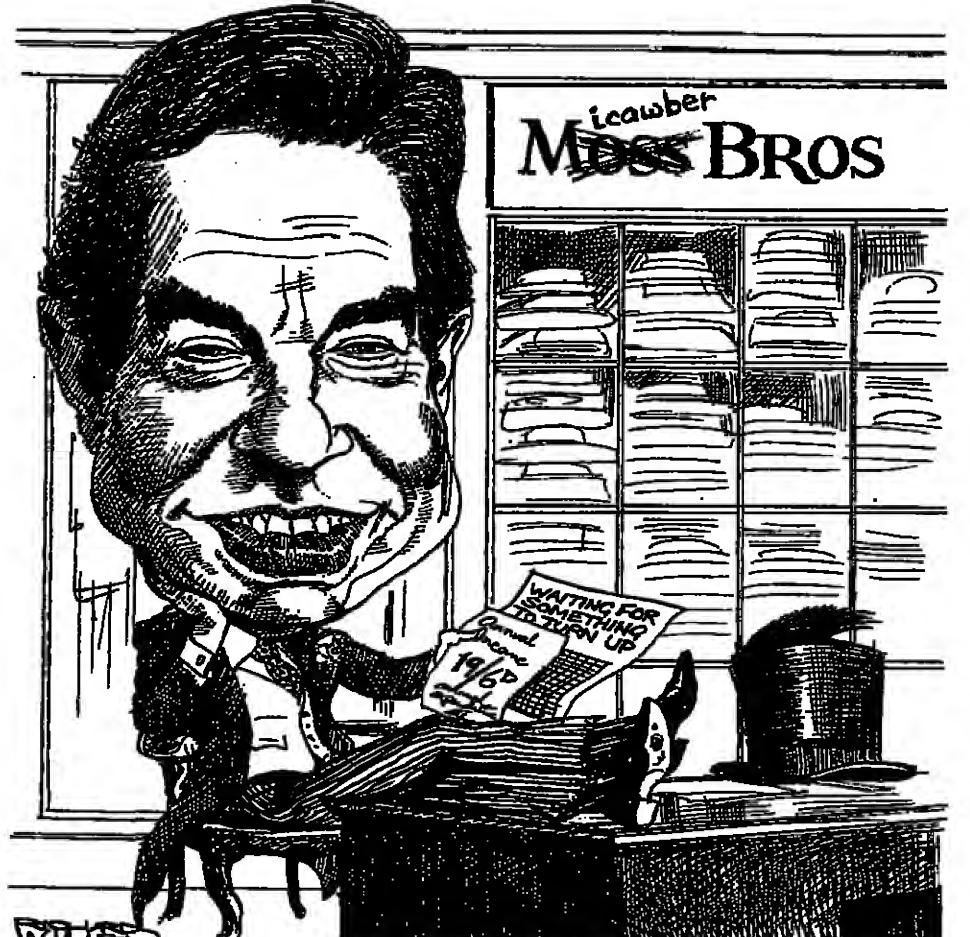
Moss Bros now commands 13 per cent of the market in men's suits, just a couple of percentage points behind Marks & Spencer.

The group continues to press ahead with expansion plans. A drop in rents on new leases enabled the group to open nine stores in the second half compared with only four in the first six months. The dividend should grow

LAIRD GROUP: Final results on Thursday are unlikely to make pleasant reading. Pretax profits are set to fall from £69.6 million to about £40 million with the dividend pegged at 14.4p.

from 6p to 6.3p

The group continues to lack control over too many businesses, says Mark Little at BT Alex Brown, the broker. He reckons the results will be adversely affected by delayed model launches, higher startup costs in Germany and



Rowland Gee will blame poor results on discounting to counter weak consumer confidence

Spain, increased pricing pressure and falling PC sales.

The current year should see an improved automotive market and the bottoming-out of the destocking in the PC market. But the fire that occurred in the German extrusion plant will mean that the year-end accounting will be complicated by asset write-offs. The main

focus of attention will be on ment and capital projects," what is happening with pricing in the core seals operation. "Price deflation for all of the car seal suppliers has been brutal but there comes a point where the manufacturers must recognise this and allow the suppliers to make decent

returns in order to be able to re-

invest in research and develop-

says Mr Little.

SILENTNIGHT: A drop in consumer confidence during the final quarter will have left its mark when final results are recorded on Thursday.

Pre-tax profits are likely to come in at about £16 million, compared with £16.6 million

last time, while earnings will be 24.2p a share, against 24.9p. That said, the group's artempts at reducing costs and evidence of a recovery in the current year should offer hope to shareholders. A strong firsthalf performance that saw profits grow 22 per cent will have given way to a sticky second half that saw high street

A small improvement in bed sales is expected at Rest Assured, but on a like-for-like basis sales are likely to be flat at best. The drop in sales at its cab-inet division is likely to have accelerated in the second half.

spending slow considerably.

The cost of closing its factory in Barnsley and subsequent trading losses are likely to be in the region of £3 million.

Some progress is expected in the US and Germany, but the group has already made the decision to sell its American bed business to the National Bedding Company of Chicago.

CLINTON CARDS: The greeting cards retailer is expected to report pre-tax profits of £14 million against £7.7 million. Earnings per share of 15.9p are forecast, compared with 9.3p last time, from which a 4p dividend is expected, against 3p last time.

OASIS STORES: After a difficult year in 1997, the retailer has experienced a much better 1998. This has been reflected both in strong first-half figures and a confident trading statement. Rowan Morgan, an analyst at Teather & Greenwood, predicts pre-tax profits of £14 million, up from £10.4 million. Earnings should grow from 13.1p to 18p, with the dividend set at 8.3p against 7.5p.

THE new millennium is set to be a boom time for electrical retailers as a vast number of new products are launched on to a market that is already

PC World, The Link and the Freeserve Internet service, controls 27 per cent of the market, up I per cent on a year earlier. and is likely to benefit most from the boom, according to Verdict, the retail consultancy. The group has a retail brand in every growth market as well as

graphical presence". Sales of minidiscs, DVDs (digital versatile discs), digital televisions and other products using new technology should take off this year. Video console and software sales will benefit from the launch of the Sega ALASDAIR MURRAY | Dreamcast and Sony Play-

show first signs of optimism

FROM A CORRESPONDENT IN TORYO

JAPANESE corporate sentiment improved slightly in the latest quarter for the first time in almost two years, a central bank survey showed yesterday.

But business confidence was still low and the survey pointed to a wave of corporate restructuring hitting the economy as large firms predicted a 9.4 per cent drop in capital investment in the year that started on April 1. Firms of all sizes said they had too many workers.

The closely watched index for large manufacturers in the Bank of Japan's quarterly tankan survey rose to minus 47 from minus 49 in December. It was the first increase since the second quarter of 1997. Their non-manufacturing cousins recorded a similar rise, with that index improving to minus 34 from minus 39.

The number is the percentage of firms reporting a favourable environment minus those that see it as unfavourable. When negative, it means pessimistic firms outnumber optimistic ones.

Big manufacturers and non-

manufacturers also predicted sentiment would rise further by the next survey in June, forccasting minus 38 and minus 27 respectively. Peter Morgan, a senior economist at HSBC Securities, said: 'There are signs that things are stabilising, but it is still going to be a very slow process. The overhangs in capacity, employment and inven-tories are still quite large."

Authorities were also cautious. "The tankan shows that there are brighter signs but we still need to be vigilant on the economy," said Hiromu Nonaka, the Government's top spokesman.

The Bank of Japan said the survey in itself did not provide sufficient data to judge whether the economy had his bottom.

The survey had little lasting impact on financial markets. Tokyo stocks rallied more than 2 per cent in the morning but ended the day up just 0.27 per cent at 10.334.78. The tankan failed to lift the yen, which slithered to Y121.45 to the dollar in late trading in Tokyo, down from Y120.43 in the morning.

Technology to boost retailers

By Sarah Cunningham, retail correspondent

worth £12.7 billion a year.

The Dixons Stores Group, which owns Dixons, Currys, "product authority and geo-

station 2. In personal computers the launch of the Pentium III chip should help those retailers suffering from the price falls that have hit that market. Incursions by Tesco and Asda, the supermarket chains, into the PC market have also made life difficult for traditional electronics retailers in the past year.

Some casualties can be expected among high street retailers of mobile telephones once that market, boosted recently by the success of pay-as-you-talk phones, reaches saturation.

Verdict says retailers need to work harder to differentiate themselves from rivals: 'The vast majority are pitched at the middle-mass market. Product. service and store environments differ little. Consumers will need to be reassured and to trust the retailer, particularly when it comes to big-ticket, new technology products."

THE SETIMES

Bank meetings likely to continue interest rate cuts

ALL eyes will be on the two interest rate meetings on Thursday with both the Bank of England and the European Central Bank considered like-

ly to cut rates. Few clues are likely before the meeting of the Bank's Monetary Policy Committee to any changes in the thinking of its members. The March Purch-

asing Managers services survey on Wednesday should provide some interest with the index having shown signs of recovery in the past month or so. Analysts expect this trend to continue, but whether it will be sufficiently strong to persuade the Bank to delay further rate cuts is doubtful.

Also on Wednesday the Feb-

ECONOMIC OUTLOOK

are now suggesting the worst

The City consensus is that manufacturing production will fall by 0.3 per cent across the month, leaving output 1.6 per

ing issues by five to four. By

midday the Dow Jones indus-

trial average was up 139.03 points at 9.971.54.

London and other European

markets were closed for Easter

Monday.

32: 31.
37: 36.
19: 19
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27. 27. 135. 134. 37. 38. 49. 49.

cent lower than in the same month last year. Overall industrial production will also decline at an annual rate of 0.4

data will arrive after the ECB decision on Thursday and will therefore have more relevance to what happens next. The February unemployment figures

Crunch time in Olivetti bid for Telecom Italia

By Paul Armstrong

OLIVETTI'S bitter battle for control of Telecom Italia will come to a head this week with shareholders of both companies due to vote on crucial strategy measures.

The meetings could lead to the collapse of Olivetti's \$65 billion (£40 billion) hostile takeover bid by the weekend, but. equally, they could pave the way for the suitor's success.

What is probably the most critical meeting will take place in Turin on Saturday, when Telecom shareholders will consider key planks of the defence plan proposed by Franco Bernabe, the company's managing

These involve the conversion of savings shares to ordinary shares and a 10 per cent share buyback.

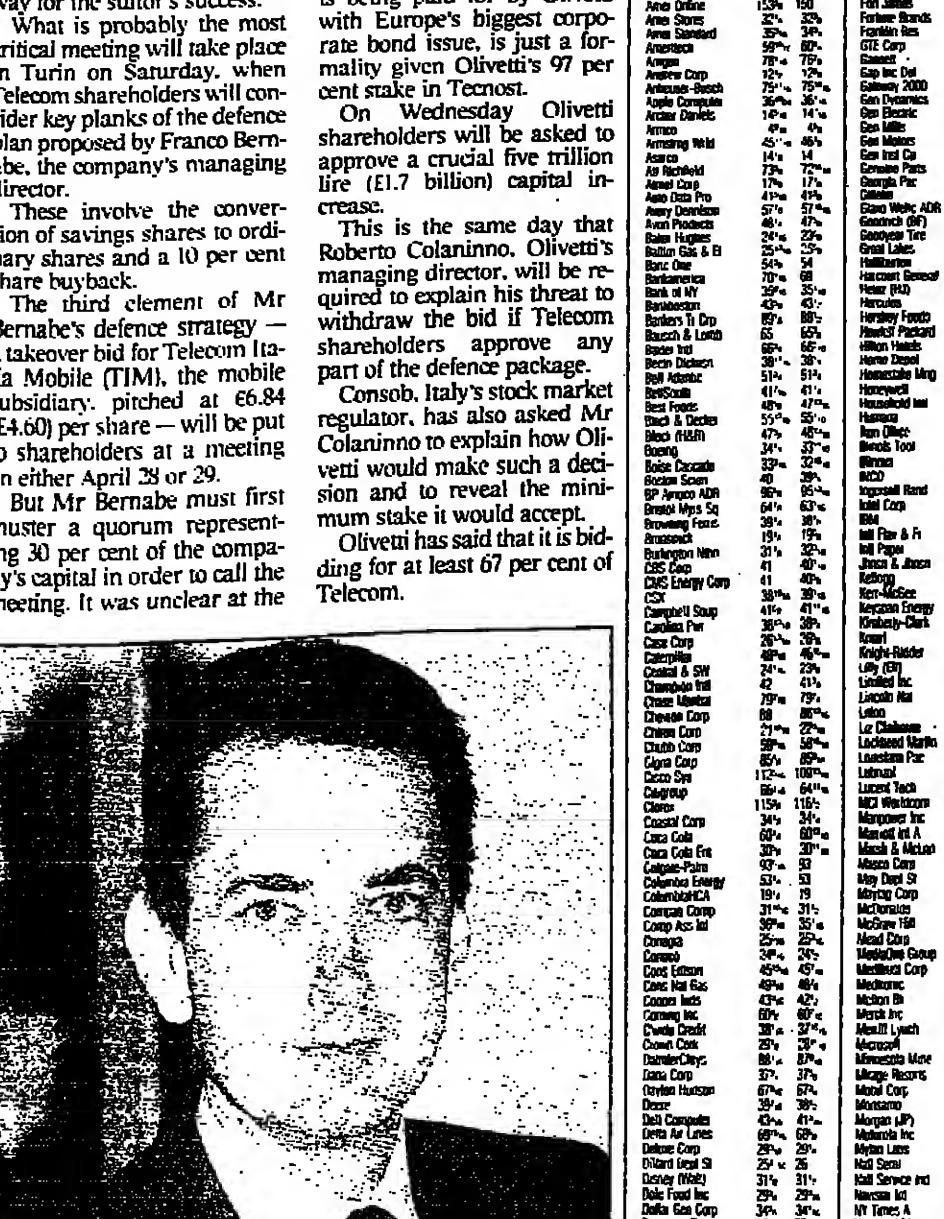
The third element of Mr Bernabe's defence strategy a takeover bid for Telecom Italia Mobile (TIM), the mobile subsidiary, pitched at 66.84 (£4.60) per share — will be put to shareholders at a meeting on either April 28 or 29.

muster a quorum representing 30 per cent of the company's capital in order to call the meeting, it was unclear at the

SHARES were higher as investors returned from the threeday Easter weekend in a buy-ing mood, encouraged by a jobs report that showed little threat of inflation. Advancing shares led declin-

last count whether this would be achieved. By the time Telecom shareholders gather, their counterparts at Tecnost, the Olivetti subsidiary being used for the bid, would already have voted on the company's proposed €12 billion capital increase at a

meeting on Tuesday. However, the move, which is being paid for by Olivetti with Europe's biggest corpo-rate bond issue, is just a for-



ruary industrial production figures are expected to confirm that the manufacturing sector remains mired in recession. While the forward-looking manufacturing surveys

is over for the sector, this has yet to make itself felt in the official data.

per cent.

All the significant curozone

on Friday are expected to show no change with the rate at 10.6 per cent. Consumer and business confidence indices, which are also published on Friday, are both expected to show a modest deterioration but not to the extent of prompting the ECB to think afresh.

EXCLUSIVE READER OFFER

An online Feng Shu consultation — ***



Increase life energy through design. Enhance your home or office

oday, The Times offers readers a FREE online Feng Shui consultation to give a room in your home a new look. You will be given a complete Feng Shui report helping you to make the best use of your space to improve relationships, health, finances, family and career. If you re-arrange your environment according to Feng Shui principles, fans of Feng Shui claim, your life is enhanced. The offer applies to a dining room, study or bathroom.

Times readers can also have interior design advice online for other rooms in their home for £5.50 per room, half the usual price of £11. When you go online you will be asked to use a compass to check



the direction and position of the door and create the layout of your room. Describe what you can see out of each window and submit the room to an online Feng Shui expert for analysis. The analysis will highlight the negative and positive areas of your room and make recommendations for you to put your furniture and fittings in places where they will not suffer/create negative influences.

HOW TO APPLY

Collect four of the seven tokens published in The Times this week. Token 1 appeared in The Times Magazine on Saturday. On each token there is a two-letter code. You need four, two-letter codes to access the free consultation on the Feng Shui website: www.online-fengshui.com

When you have any four of the seven sets of two-letter codes, key them into your computer when asked and follow the instructions carefully. You will need a web browser Netscape 3 or above, Explorer 3 or above, or their equivalent. Full instructions are on the site. If you have difficulty downloading, please check you are following the instructions. If you are at work, make sure there is no firewall. Try again or contact your Internet service provider.



Terms and Conditions: Only one free room consultation per household. Consultations for other rooms are available at half price. just £5.50 per room. Instructions for how to do this will be on the website. Offer closes at midnight Wednesday April 28, 1999

THE FACTS

P&O market capitalisation: £5.762 billion. Sales: £5.912 billion in

Pre-tax profits: £368.9 mil-

lion in 1998. Overview: P&O is a diversified business taking in femies, cruises, ports and logistics, cargo shipping, construction and property. The group has recently announced a restructuring programme that will eventually limit it to the first three activities.

THE BOARD

Lord Sterling of Plaistow, 64, chairman. Is an Elder Brother of Trinny House. Sir Bruce McPhail, 59, managing director. An MBA of Harvard Business School. Formerly with Price Waterhouse and Hill Samuel. Tim Harris, 51, assistant director since 1995, responsible for cruises and chief executive of P&O Nedlloyd.

Graeme Duplop, 56, responsible for ferries. Michael Gradon, 39, legal director and company secretary. Tim Harding, 58, responsible

for property activities. Richard Hain, 63, chairman and managing director of P&O Australia. Sir Frank Lampl, 72, chair-

man of Bovis. Nick Luff, 32, the finance Peter Ratcliffe, 51, president of Princess Cruises. Robert Woods, 52, manag-

ing director of P&O Nedlloyd. P&O's non-executive directors are:

Lord Hambro, 68. Senior

non-executive director. Chairman of Guardian Royal Exchange and of the Royal National Pension Fund for Nurses. Peter Foy, 58. Former man-

aging director of McKinsey Co (UK) and former chairman of Baring Brothers International. Director of PepsiCo and of Omnicom.

Rodney Galpin, 67. Chairof Alpha Airports. director of Capital Shopping Centres. Str John Collins, 57. Chief executive of the Vestey Group, non-executive chairman of National Power, non-executive director of NM Rothschild & Sons and of Stoll Moss Theatres. Director of the London Symphony Orchestra. Baroness Hogg, 52, chairman. London Economics.

urning a supertanker around in mid-voyage is no overnight job. When P&O announced, a couple of weeks ago, a stern-tobow overhaul and the sale of £2 billion of assets, the stock market responded favourably. But some questioned how long the change of direction should have taken to engineer.

The Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation Company bears more history than virtually any other FTSE company. Margaret Thatcher is sup-posed to have declared: "It's not just a company — it's the very fabric of the Empire."

P&O's history is certainly bound up with the Empire's. The peninsula is the Iberian one; the company's two founders fought in the Napoleonic Wars, and their first trade was to and from Gibraltar. The Oriental came when they extended their trade to the eastern Mediterranean. Expansion to the true Orient came later, in time for the boom years for luxury cruiseliners in the first decades of this century. The arrival of Boeing 707s

ended that era. P&O bought into gas and bulk carriers and greatly expanded its freight shipping side, aided by a tax regime that encouraged such expansion regardless of whether it was justified commercially. "Once the 707s arrived, the game was up. By 1970, the company, frankly, hadn't decided where it was going," recalls Lord Sterling of Plaistow, chairman, who, since the early 1980s, has run P&O with Sir Bruce McPhail, managing director.

The expansion could not be justified; the shipping bubble burst and freight rates fell. Lord Sterling's first task was to see off an opportunistic bid from Trafalgar House, another big name in shipping.

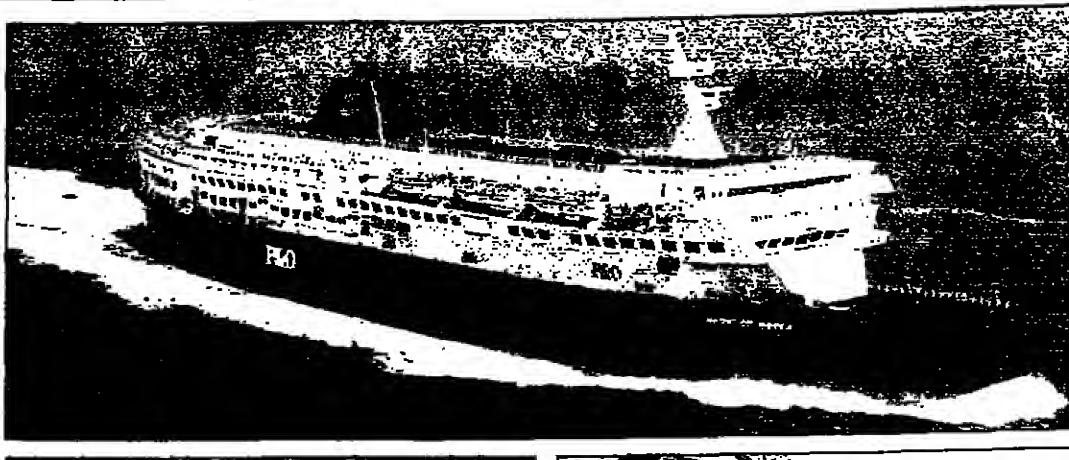
Sterling then sold the oiltrading business and the gas carriers, as well as various ancillary bits and pieces, including 20th Century Banking and Bishopsgate Insurance. "We didn't want to be in any business we didn't understand or in which anyone could pull the wool over our eyes," he says.

It was the start of a much tighter ship. "In practice, we have total control in financial terms on capital expenditure and we're absolutely right on top of cashflow. The top couple of hundred appointments must be approved by here," says Sterling, gesturing at P&O's Pall Mall headquarters.

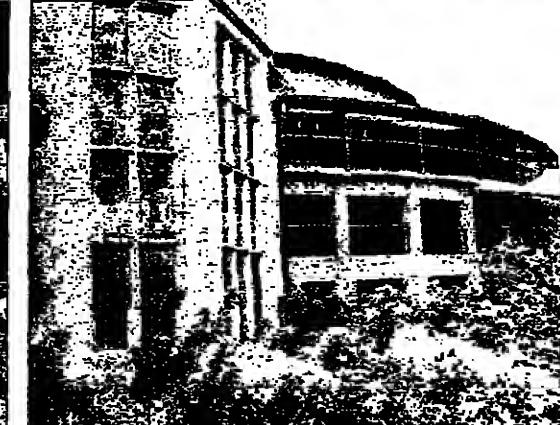
"or at least cleared by here." By the start of this decade, P&O had expanded into property, construction and housebuilding, and further into shipping. by acquiring European Ferries in 1987, for example. However, City critics felt that

COFFEE PSOFILE PSO









P&O, where Lord Sterling is chairman, is to return to its roots and concentrate on cruises, ferries, ports and logistics. On the disposal block are Bovis Construction, manager for the building of the new Glyndebourne Opera House, and the Earls Couri Olympia exhibition centre, home of the Boat Show

sprawling for its own good, at a time when conglomerates were out of favour.

There was also criticism that Sterling and McPhail were insufficiently responsive to the views of big City shareholders. The shares were in the doldrums — they have underperformed the FTSE allshare index by 30 per cent over the past five years, not helped by the recession of the early 1990s, which hit industrial groups such as P&O, with its huge containerised shipping operations, especially hard.

On March 23 this year, when unveiling P&O's 1998 results. Sterling announced a return to its shipping roots. The property portfolio would be gradually sold, as would the Earls Court Olympia exhibition business — 43 acres of prime land in Central London. in the books at £180 million but worth, analysts suggest, nearer to £350 million. Alternatively, the UK investment property interests, with a book value of £650 million, could be demerged as a free-standing quoted property company.

P&O Nedlloyd, a joint vent-

shipping group in which P&O has £450 million tied up, would be floated, offering a possibility that P&O would sell all or part of its stake. The Bovis construction management business would also be floated, to follow Bovis Homes, which

ket at £226 million. P&O shares rose 5 per cent on news of this unbundling. The sale proceeds, even before anything from the Nedlloyd float, could total £2 billion. This would allow sharehold-

higher multiples."

last year joined the stock mar-

els, in some cases 25 times curers who had stayed in while the shares were underperformrent earnings, enjoyed by ing to be rewarded for their patience, possibly with a share buyback or a special dividend.

P&O back to its three core businesses of ports, ferries and cruises, the last being by far the biggest, and would leave it with no borrowings. That makes absolutely clear what the company is about," says Sterling. The new focus, it is hoped, will mean a rerating of the shares close to the high lev-

A THE EXPENS SHE

Stephen Clapham, Robert Fleming Securities

Richard Hannah, BT Alex Brown

"What they have done is what people have been pushing for

and urking them to do for some time. Sentiment, therefore,

has changed for the positive. But there's a lot riding on the

speed at which they execute this. The skares are clearly stand-

ing at a substantial discount to the value of the constituent

parts of the business. The market isn't giving them full value

"The divisional split was as auticipated. The unbundling of

P&O should make it easier to value the group as a whole -

especially the cruise division, which will now be more easily

compared to its US peer group, which trades on significantly

today for what they might realise tomorrow."

"pure" shipping companies in the US and elsewhere. All three core divisions earn The disposals would slim 15 per cent return on capital employed. "Where's the com-

pany going?" asks Sterling. "When the mists of what's happening in the Far East start to clear, and some of them are starting to already, there will be an increase in world trade in years to come. massive increase in wealth in

"This leads to creation of a world terms. People have the time as well as the increased wealth and are spending it on travel. We are uniquely placed to take advantage of that." Sterling refuses to be drawn

on what P&O will do with the disposal proceeds not needed for investment in core activities. He says: "Once we've brought this in, we would have to look at whether the capital structure . . . would need to be addressed. Do you buy in shares? Could you give the money back to shareholders?"

However, he insists that one big shareholder has already suggested that if P&O can

per cent, it would sooner the company held onto the money.

The City's concern is not the wisdom of the proposed moves but the length of time they took to be decided on once it became clear that P&O was becalmed. There is also a question over what should happen to the property assets: property shares currently trade at a discount to assets. However, a gradual sale would take much longer to benefit investors than a demerger. It is, the stock market accepts, impossible yet to say which course

would be best. Sterling is unrepentant about the time taken to decide to return P&O to its maritime roots. In the 1990s recession, he says, P&O spent billions of pounds on the cruise business to compete with the best in the world. "It would have been impossible to do that without the real estate side — this was the bank that funded it," he said. "The real estate side is no

longer the essential it was in providing the streams of income needed. But we got no brownie points whatsoever for the success of the real estate division; even though it's helped keep investing and earning 15 us build the company. I don't

think its made one jot of difference to our share price."

There remain some profits still to come from existing property developments, especially in the US. By book value, P&O has £1.1 billion in investment property and £350 million in sites to develop.

Sterling denies any disenchantment with the City, but says: "We're having to run the company and they are sitting where they are. We're just as disappointed in how the share price has been of late."

The problem. Sterling feels, is that P&O has disappointed before - this may help to explain why most analysts break-up value exceeds its share price. In 1993 and 1994. P&O was seen as a recovery stock, a promise not fulfilled One isn't saying one hasn't made mistakes." Sterling says. "On the whole, one has enjoyed enormous support. We lost a certain amount for a while, though not that of our major shareholders. It looked as if we had lost a sense of direction."

However, he adds: "If you go back five years and think what the atmosphere was like . . . you would have been flogging off assets at half their present values."

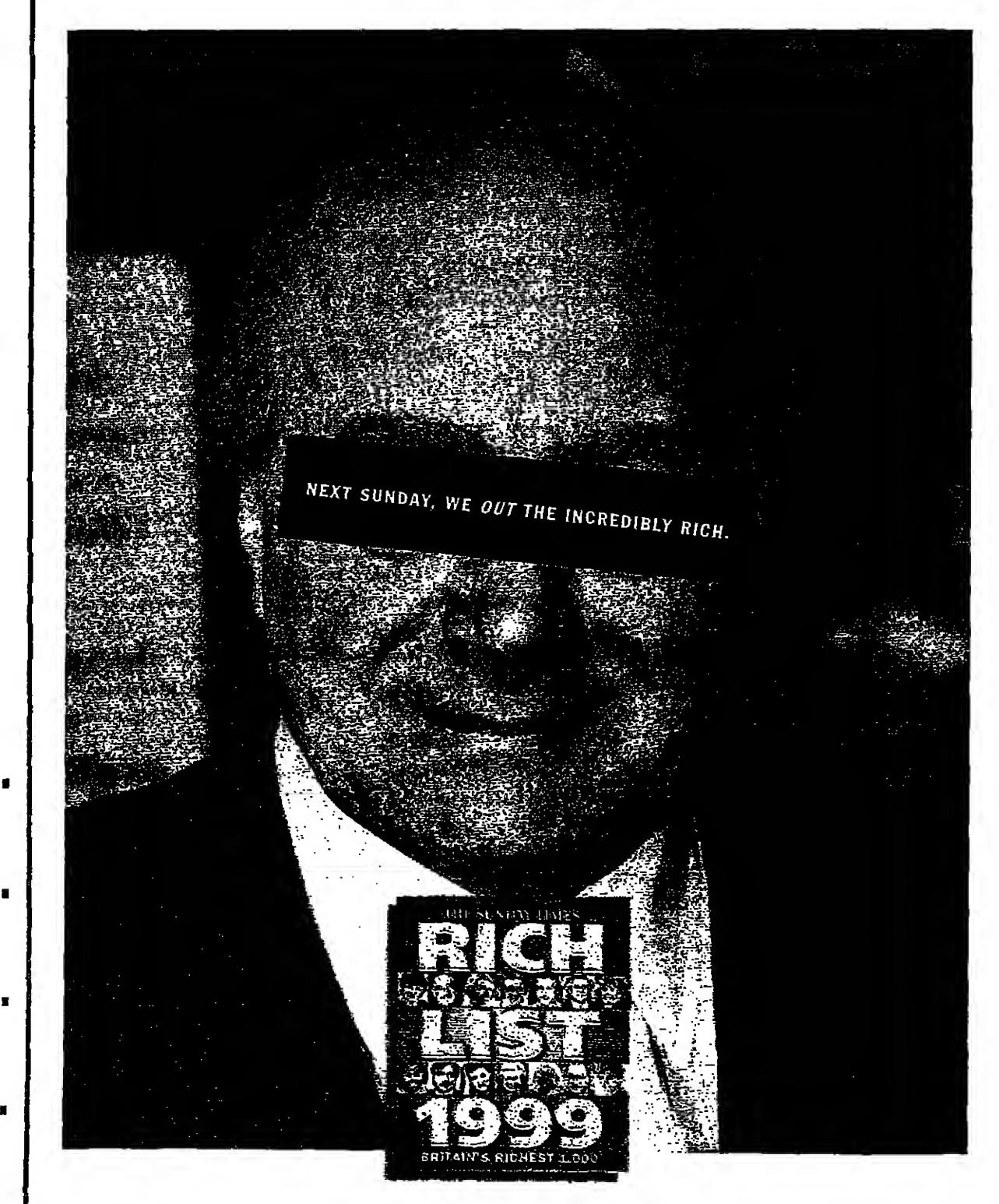
At 64, Sterling might reasonably be thinking of retirement, especially after to years at the helm. However, he insists he will drive P&O into the next century. There are certainly no plans for a successor. "I don't think I'm decrepit yet." Sterling says. "Bruce McPhail is a superb managing director. The three key divisions are represented by senior directors on the board. The finance director is the youngest in the FTSE

The inner circle is all in place." P&O scores well on executive pay, with Sterling's £1.1 million fitting for his experience and non-executive directors slightly underpaid, according to the Crisp consultancy. However, on ethical policy, Integrity Works questions whether business principles should be left to individual companies.

MARTIN WALLER

OUR VERDICT Ethical expression 5/10 Fat-cat quotient2..... 9/10 Financial record...... 7/10 Share performance.... 5/10 Attitude to staff...... 8/10 Strength of brand..... 8/10 Innovation...... 7/10 Annual report......8/10 City star rating...... 7/10 Future prospects...... 8/10 Total..... 72/100 Ethical expression is evaluated by 'Integrity Works. The fat-cat que-tient, in which best boardroom pay practice scores highest, is provided by 'Crisp Consulting.

THE SUNDAY TIMES



THE SUNDAY TIMES IS THE SUNDAY PAPERS

Russia to reopen Unions welcome talks with IMF on foreign debt

FROM A CORRESPONDENT IN MOSCOW

RUSSIAN officials will resume talks with an International Monetary Fund mission tomorrow as Moscow strives to secure the funding needed to meet foreign debt obligations of \$17.5 billion (£11 billion) this

Negotiations with the IMF are expected to last about two weeks and cover technical details of policies underpinning possible new IMF credits for Russia. The IMF mission follows a visit last week by Michel Camdessus, the IMF managing director.

Russia's talks with the IMF have made slow progress since last year's economic crisis torpedoed a previous loan programme. Yevgeni Primakov, the Rus-

sian Prime Minister, says new IMF credits are essential for Russia to meet its foreign debt obligations.

The Government wants new IMF credits so that it can re-

pay about \$4.5 billion which it owes the Fund itself. IMF support will also open the door to restructuring talks with other

The IMF mission is expect-ed to complete its work before a meeting of the Group of Seven industrial nations on

The G7 talks will take place in Washington during the spring meetings of the IMF and World Bank, but a decision on Russian credits by the IMF board is not expected until later.

In Moscow the IMF mission will first analyse preliminary thousands of jobs. Exports information about Russia's have suffered badly as Britfirst-quarter budget perform-ance. Talks with the Finance Ministry will only begin on Friday when the mission will formulate its proposals and make comments on the information presented to it. The size of new credits will be discussed no earlier than next week.

task force for manufacturing

By Our Industrial Staff

comed government plans to set up a high-level task force to champion the interests of manufacturing.

The establishment of a task force by Stephen Byers, the Trade and Industry Secretary. follows persistent criticism by industry of the Bank of England's Monetary Policy Committee.

High interest rates, which have contributed to the strength of the pound against other leading currencies, have been blamed by manufacturers for the loss of ish goods have been priced out of the market.

The task force, which will be constituted later this year, is expected to feature leaders of the Trades Union Congress and senior respresenta-tives from the Confederation of British Industry, the Engi-

UNIONS yesterday wel- neering Employers' Federation and the Chemical Industries Association. Its formation will be preceded by a summit meeting of union leaders and captains of indusRoger Lyons, general secre-tary of the MSF union, who is likely to be invited to join the task force, welcomed its formation. He said previous governments had ignored the plight of industry and ex-cluded unions from the for-

mulation of economic policy.

He said: "Establishing the task force is obviously not the end of manufacturing difficulties. The value of the pound and interest rates nearly double that of the eurozone are causing many companies serious problems. But it is a significant step in the right direction and shows the Government is serious about partnership in busi-

Fortune 500's seven-year hitch

FROM A CORRESPONDENT IN NEW YORK

PROFITS of the Fortune 500 companies declined for the first time in seven years in 1998 as US companies suffered the effects of the economic crisis in Asia. Russia and Latin America.

Overall profits for the 500 fell 1.8 per cent last year, compared with 7.8 per cent earnings growth in 1997, according to Fortune magazine's annual listing of the largest US public companies. Revenue growth shrank to 4 per cent from 8.7 per cent in 1997 as companies found demand for their products and services stifled by the continuing financial problems overseas.

While 1998 will not be remembered for its stellar profits, the magazine said, it will likely mark the beginning of the end of the dominance of blue chips such as General

JAN150



Motors and Coca-Cola. Younger companies, such as Microsoft, Cisco Systems and Dell are wielding more influence in corporate America, Fortune said.

Fortune said that 1998 "will probably be considered a watershed year, the year when the

Jack Smith saw GM retain top spot for the 11th year running

new economy fundamentally parted ways with the old and high-tech consolidated its role as the driving force behind the growth of big business".

GM, where Jack Smith is chairman and chief executive officer, remained No 1 on the list - which ranks companies

according to revenue - for the eleventh year running. GM had \$161.3 billion in revenue, followed by Ford with \$144.4 billion, Wal-Mart with \$139.2 billion, Exxon with \$101.7 billion and General Electric with \$100.5 billion. Cisco jumped 61 places from 253 to 192, while Dell Computer shot up from 125th place to 78th.

Other high-tech companies that have become darlings of Wall Street recently have not yet made the list. While the stock prices of the online auctioneer eBay. Internet service provider AtHome and online bookseller Amazon.com have given them market capitalisations surpassing many Fortone 500 firms, they have yet to generate significant revenues, let alone profits. The company that ranked 500th the container maker Ball Corp. had nearly \$2.9 billion in revenue.

Takeover talk is foundation of Revlon's recovery

مكذا سي الأصل



FROM ANDREW BUTCHER IN NEW YORK

TAKEOVER speculation sent shares in Ron Perelman's debt-laden Revion cosmetics business soaring more than 50 per cent in a two-day buying frenzy recently, but a suitor is yet to emerge.

In fact, a week after the sudden purple patch for Revion's struggling share price, it remains uncertain whether Mr Perelman's 83 per cent stake in the company is even up for sale. Regardless, the surge in Revion shares has added nearly \$400 million (£240 million) to Mr Perelman's fortunes, at least on paper.

Speculative buying pushed daily turnover of Revion's shares to 30 times the average daily level of the past three months and the shares have stayed well above their previous depressed levels.

Unilever, the Anglo-Dutch group that makes Elizabeth Arden cosmetics, and America's Procter & Gamble were touted as potential buyers but both refused to comment on the speculation. Shiseido, the Japanese group, was also said to be in-

terested in Revion to help it to break into the US market. Uni-. lever remains the favourite to start any takeover bid.

Although no buyer has announced a bid, that is no reason to think that Revion is not in play. Shares in companies in which Mr Perelman has a big stake have a habit of wildly gyrating in the days before critical announcements. It has happened at Revion, Consolidated Cigar, Sunbeam and Coleman in the past year. There is no suggestion of any wrongdoing by Mr Perelman. in spite of the interest Mr

Perelman has made no effort to confirm or deny the rumours that Revion is in play.

Revion has certainly not been Mr Perelman's best investment. He bought it for \$1.7 billion in 1985 in a highly leveraged purchase using funds raised by Michael Milken, who pleaded guilty to securities fraud five years later.

While much of the stock market has soared recently, Revion's stock has been a distinct underperformer. Its sales are slipping and it is saddled with considerable debt.

Revlon is struggling to lift

its profits in the crowded makeup industry in the US, while it tries to cope with economic problems in overseas markets. It gets more than a third of its income from outside America, so currency falls have added to the sales woes in Asia, Russia and South America.

The cosmetics company recently added Sarah O'Hare. the Australian model, to its stable of corporate spokesmen. It already boasts Cindy Crawford, the supermodel, and large-size model Emme. In January, with profits slumping 82 per cent, Revlon announced 1,000 to 1,200 job cuts, equal to 7 per cent of its workforce.

Mr Perelman is generally considered New York's richest resident, but his stock holdings were pounded last year and dropped in value by about \$2.5 billion. It left him worth about \$3.5 billion.

Despite financial strife at Revion, his investments have recovered some of their lost ground this year. After this week's gains, Revion has virtually doubled from its 1998 low. but remains less than half the value it was at its peak.

GTE to acquire wireless assets

GTE, the US telecoms company, yesterday agreed to buy about half of Ameritech's wireless properties in US Midwestern states for about \$3.27 billion (£2 billion). The assets being acquired include 1.7 million subscribers, GTE said.

The acquisition involves properties that Ameritech must divest as part of its pro-posed merger with SBC Communications. Bell Atlantic, which has agreed to a merger of equals with GTE, has given its consent to the deal.

Late last week reports said that William Kennard, chairman of the US Federal Communications Commission. sent a letter to Ameritech and SBC expressing serious concerns about the proposed merger of the two regional tele-

communications providers. The letter reportedly suggested that the FCC would impose strict conditions in the event that SBC's proposed \$56 billion acquisition of Ameritech is approved.

Online trades soar

US investors funnelled stock trades through the Internet at a record pace in the first quarter, and online trading volumes rose by up to 35 per cent to about 450,000 trades a day from the fourth quarter, according to analysts at CS First Boston. The surge in online trading volumes came despite overall market volumes rising just under 5 per cent from the fourth quarter. The rise means that Web brokers processed an average of 440,000 to 460,000 trades a day in the first quarter and continue to pick off market share from traditional brokers. Shares of online brokers jumped yesterday, with Ameri-Trade adding \$6.44 to a record \$69. E*Trade up \$3.13 to \$63 and Schwab up \$3.25 to \$97.

Tie Rack set to rise

Shares of Tie Rack are expected to rise today after reports that the specialist retailer is in talks with Ferria, the privately owned Italian clothing manufacturer. The companies are believed to have discussed an offer of 40p a share, valuing the business at about £25 million. The shares closed at 35%p on Thursday, the previous trading day, having plunged since their 1997 high of more than 200p.

Regulator wants gas power station moratorium litted

BY CHRISTINE BUCKLEY, INDUSTRIAL CORRESPONDENT

CALLUM McCARTHY, the energy regulator, has attacked the Government's block on new gas power stations, call-

ing for its immediate removal. Mr McCarthy, who is pursuing a strong campaign against profiteering by the generators. blames the moratorium for hampering competition in the industry. It was introduced to protect the market for coal as the mining industry lurched towards a massive decline. He told The Times: "Anyone

with the statutory responsibilities given to me cannot be a supporter of the moratorium would like to see it removed forthwith because we have a duty to promote competition, and this is an impediment to competition."

The block, while helping coal, also shields the three main coal-burning generators from new competitors. Last year the Government ordered National Power and Power-Gen to sell power stations in order to counter this and to stimulate competition. But Mr McCarthy has since been angered by what he considers to be gaming in the electricity market which has forced up the price of power.

The regulator, who has been overseeing the electricity indusmy since January, says that the generators will face quickie ticence amendments to prohibit

price rises if their charges do not fall. Mr McCarthy also dismissed the claims made for the generators that electricity pri-

ces have fallen. "At the moment it is manifest that we haven't got a genuinely competitive gen-eration sector. When you look over ten years at the huge falling away in input prices and you look at what has happened to output prices, that mismatch is completely incompatible

with genuine competition. "There has been a 30 per cent fall in prices. Some seem to suggest that is something the generators have done but that fall has come from the reduction in the non-fossil fuel obligation (with the withdrawal of the levy



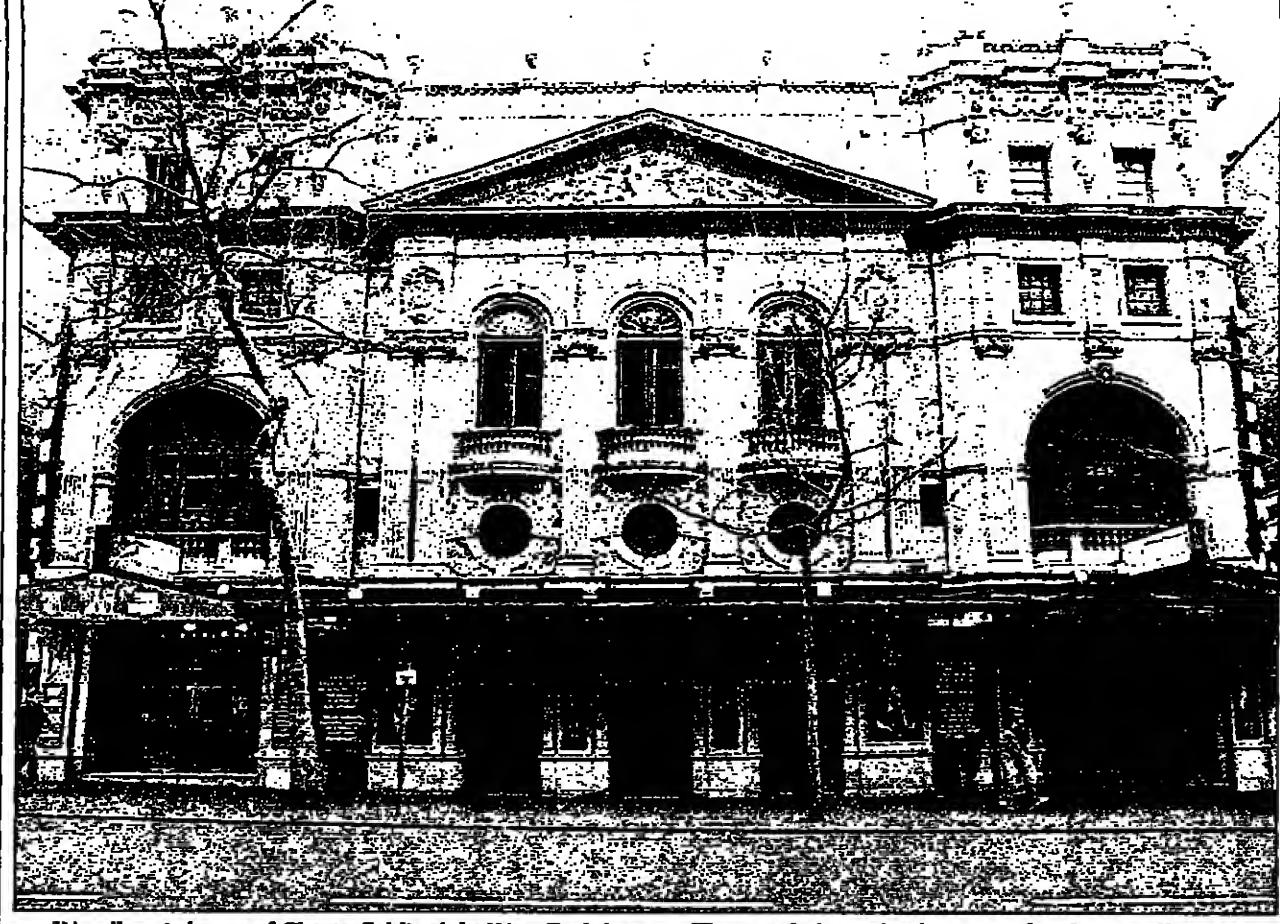
Battle: seeks reforms

for nuclear energy): from tighter controls on distribution and supply, and from the last of the coal contracts."

Mr McCarthy is determined to push down electricity prices below the level envisaged by the Government in its energy review. When the review began it was predicted that prices could fall by 10 per cent once the electricity trading arrangements have been overhauled.

The regulator is pushing for a quick shake-up of the power market and the scrapping of the controversial electricity pool - moves ordered by John Battle, the Energy Minister, in the energy review. His keenness was sharpened by the pool's cursory treatment of a senior official from Mr McCarthy's office at a meeting earlier this year.

But he concedes that the overhaul - never likely to be easy, given the myriad of interested parties - could hit legislative delays. If the Utilities Regulation Bill goes into the next Queen's Speech then legislation will not follow until late next year. Similarly, if the moves are attempted by licence changes and the companies object and force a Monopolies and Mergers Commission inquiry, then the process will drag on for as long, if not longer. April 2000 is the target date for the reforms.



Wyndham's is one of Chesterfield's eight West End theatres. They are being valued as part of a plan to sell assets

Chesterfield sites to be valued

By Martin Barrow

CHESTERFIELD PROPERTIES has appointed advisers to value its entertainment division as part of a plan to sell its assets and return the proceeds to share-

The group has appointed Investec to value the division, which has eight West End theatres. These include Wyndham's and the Donmar Warehouse, a theatre production company and a film and television distribution arm.

Since announcing a possible corporate restructuring in February Chesterfield has received a bid approach from Quintain Estates and Development. Quintain said it would sell all the London properties, including the entertainment division. to Benchmark Group. Roger Wingate, a former chairman of Chesterfield and now chief executive as well as its largest shareholder, has expressed an interest in bidding for the division but firm proposals have yet to be announced.

complicated by the bid approach. There has also been disquiet about the role of Robert Maxted, the former chief executive. He was expected to join GE Capital. which has agreed to acquire a £93.5 million property portfolio from Chesterfield.

comed in the City, where institutional in-

vestors have put pressure on the manage-

ment of smaller property companies to

consolidate. But progress has been slow,

At an extraordinary meeting last month the board requested more time to The winding-up of Chesterfield was welbring about the restructuring.

boosts US audience

111

BBC AMERICA, the subscription television channel with programmes ranging from Ballykissangel to EastEnders, has doubled its distribution in the US through a deal with DIRECTV, the leading American satellite broadcaster (Ray-

mond Snoddy writes). DIRECTV will broadcast the BBC subscription channel to its 4.6 million digital satellite viewers all over the US. It means that the channel, carrying a wide range of BBC entertainment, will be available in just under nine million

BBC America has found it difficult to get on to US cable networks because of the growing capacity problem. but DIRECTV broadcasts a total

Rupert Gavin, chief executive of BBC Worldwide, said that the DIRECTV deal was a key part of a BBC global strategy to increase its portfolio of international channels.

BBC channels are now available in some form in 225 mil-

of 185 channels.

lion homes worldwide. BBC America is distributed by Discovery Networks as part of a global alliance between the two organisations.

BBC deal Companies urged to appeal against rates

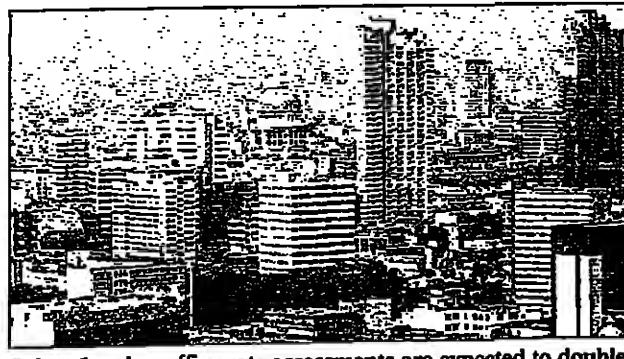
BY MARTIN BARROW

COMPANIES in England and Wales could be wasting up to £3 billion a year on rate payments, according to research published today.

At present just 40 per cent of all rating assessments are subject to an appeal. Yet nearly half the rateable properties in England and Wales, with a value of more than £16 billion, could find their rates reduced on appeal, according to Fletcher King, the property and construction services group. The firm's research is based on national statistics regarding

the rateable value of all commercial property in the UK, measured against Fletcher King's own success rate in conducting rating appeals for its clients and the average reduction rate secured on appeal. Bob Dickman, head of

Fletcher King's rating division. said: The fact that only 40 per cent of rating assessments on commercial properties are appealed in England and Wales is an astonishingly low figure when you consider the amount of money involved." Fletcher King's own record



Prime London office rate assessments are expected to double

on appeals is that for every ten appeals made on behalf of clients eight are successful, securing an average reduction rate

of 17 per cent. Mr Dickman said: "If we use those figures as a benchmark it is clear that many property owners and occupiers are paying considerably more than they need on their

Next year a new rating list will come into force. The effect of the revaluation on rateable value will depend on the type of property and its locality, but increases may be significant.

Analysts believe that prime Central London office assessments are likely to double, with the immediate effect on rate payments depending on what phasing provisions are

made by the Government These could be similar to those that apply to the 1995 Rating List, where increases in rate liability for Central London offices with an assessment of more than £15,000 have their annual increases restricted to 10 per cent plus inflation.

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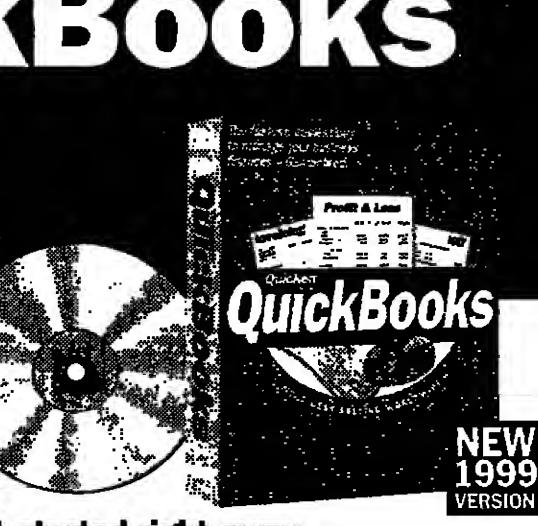
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Paul Durman offers reassurance over chief's CV

Azur board prepares to float

TONY MARTIN has an eye-catching CV, having worked for British Biotech. Celsis International and Tepnel Life Sciences - three biotechnology companies that have resolutely destroyed the value of the money that shareholders invested in them.

Dr Martin is about to try again with Azur Environmental, a water monitoring equipment firm that he hopes to float on Easdag in June or July. He plans to raise \$20 million to fund expansion and expects Azur to be worth up to \$60 million.

The "seorched earth" that Dr Martin's career has left behind him is not as worrying as it looks. At British Biotech he ran the profitable genetic products arm for about five years, and left in 1992 - long before the origins of last year's controversy over its misleadingly optimistic assessments of its drugs. And he was chairman of Tepnel for just a little more than a year. More troubling was his sacking as

chief executive of Celsis in 1994, only nine months after Chris Evans's hygiene monitoring company was floated. Mark Clement, his finance director, publicly branded Dr Martin as "ineffectual", an early example of the flair of biotech firms to make a bad situation worse.

Dr Martin, who eventually won a handsome settlement from Celsis, remains mystified by the episode. He said: "I still don't know to this day what led them, and Mark in particular, to say those things. I never detected any animosity and Mark had become almost a personal friend. I. was very surprised by it all."

He became chairman and chief executive of Azur, then called Microbics, in June 1995, and raised \$15 million for the Californian-registered firm the following March. Azur is now based in Reading. although most of its 48 staff remain in the

Working closely with Yorkshire Water,

Azur has developed instruments that use freeze-dried bacteria to measure the toxicity of water — important both in the water industry and in a wide range of industrial processes. Dr Martin claims that this is an \$8 billion market, although Azur's annual sales are currently less than \$5 million. The development, to Yorkshire Water's

specification, of an online system that

allows remote monitoring is forecast to

produce a rapid increase in sales over the next few years, from \$7 million next year to \$35 million in the 2003 financial year. Azur plans to break even in 2001. Yorkshire is already using Azur's Microtox-OS system, and the product is on trial with Northumbrian Water as

company. Azur has also worked with Shell to develop a test to measure petroleum hydrocarbons in soil.

well as with the East of Scotland water





The trigger for the default on Zimbabwe's foreign debt could come in two weeks' time when the prices for tobacco, the main cash crop, are set

Zimbabwe on verge of greatest financial crisis

product. It had never default-

ed on an external loan and

for land reform which had

been smouldering on the back

burner since he came to power

in 1980. He said the country

pril is the cruellest month. Within three weeks Zimbabwe acould face the greatest financial crisis of its history; not just the 20-year history the country's main cash crop are set. But the trouble has since it gained majority rule, or of the 33 years since it been brewing over a period turned its back on Britain. But which an official of Stanbic, since the days when Cecil Rhodes opened the potential of what was then Southern Rhodesia more than a century ago. To be blunt, Zimbabwe is

running out of cash. It is on the threshold of a full-scale default on its foreign debt which would see it fall from being a small but exciting player in the world economic system to another African basket case. The default — which senior business figures in Harare talk about sotto voce, preferably over a gin and tonic would undo a decade of good work and could have a knock-

on effect for British companies such as Standard Chartered, Barclays and BAT, which have billions of pounds invested in the country.

The trigger is likely to be the tobacco "floor" in a little over two weeks, when the prices for

Jason Nissé reports from Harare on how a once thriving economy risks becoming another African basket case per cent of the gross national

both the International Monethe country's largest bank, tary Fund (IMF) and the international community loved it. calls "a mad 500 days". Consider this evidence. A Then Robert Mugabe, Zimyear and a half ago, Zimbabwe babwe's veteran President, efwas thriving. In the mid-1990s fectively shot the economy in it had finally thrown off the the foot. mantle of being the most prom-First he resurrected plans

ising country in Africa and had a genuinely booming economy. Agricultural exports, notably tobacco, were strong, the mining sector was thriving, and tourism was becoming a genuine engine for growth. The country has the highest literacy rate in Africa, a welltrained and willing workforce (Zimbabwean staff are highly prized by South African hoteliers and retailers because of their work ethic and good manners) and, after South Africa, the best-developed financial system in sub-Saharan Africa. So the country had external

would confiscate 1.400 farms owned by white farmers and redistribute them to poor black workers. There would be compensation, but there were still howls of protest. This plan has since been watered down to 800 farms and is rather off the main political agenda at the moment.

However, as the land reform row died down, Mugabe agreed a surprise Zim\$3.5 billion (£60 million) package of debts of about £3 billion — 77 payments to war veterans. This was seen as a political move that threw the economic calculations out of line.

There was a run on the currency - and what a run. In one day the Zimbabwe dollar fell from 14 to the US dollar to 26 and now stands at Zim\$38 to the US dollar.

he run on the currency brought uncertainty and undermined confidence. But a deal was struck with the IMF for emergency funds and the Government pursued a tight fiscal policy and everything seemed to be back on, the straight and narrow.

Then last October Mr Mugabe decided to intervene to support President Kabila of the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC). Half the Zimbabwean army is now in the DRC, a move that has already cost more than Zim\$3 billion and has thrown the economic calculations out of line again.

The IMF is unhappy. It was supposed to release US\$53 million in support funds last month. It didn't. The US is said to have suspended about

US\$120 million of aid because of human rights violations notably the torturing of two local journalists arrested last year after reporting an alleged attempted coup against the Mugabe Government.

Yet the banking sector has been able to support the Zimbabwe dollar and hold an uneasy calm in the markets for the past three months. It stepped in when the currency fell below Zim\$40 to the US dollar and on the back of this there has been a recovery in the lively Zimbabwe stock market, which has seen its industrial index rise more than 40 per cent this year.

Tony Barfoot, chief executive of the exchange, points to a whole series of good results posted by leading Zimbabwe companies such as Meikles, the hotel and retailing group, and Econet, the mobile phone franchise. "The listed companies have been doing well while the currency is under pressure as it makes their exports cheaper." Mr Barfoot says.

There is one exception — the beleaguered textile industry, which has been hit by bad weather. This is particularly bad news for Lonrho Africa, which is trying to sell its majority stake in David Whitehead. Zimbabwe's largest cotton producer. Offers of Zim\$300 million for the stake have fallen well short of expectations and Tom Cullen, Whitehead's managing director, has criticised



Mugabe: to retire by 2002

Lonrho's timing. However, in the next few weeks this minor boom could fall apart. The commercial banks are running out of patience. They are pleased that their intervention has worked but do not want to be effectively underwriting an overvalued currency for much longer. "We have to see a return to

market forces," says Barry Hamilton, chief executive of Standard Chartered in Zimbabwe, the country's largest foreign bank, which has about £250 million extended to Zimbabwean businesses. arare's business leaders say that, i the worst comes to

try could run out of foreign reserves within weeks. For this to happen the prices at the tobacco sales would be disappointing, the Zimbabwean army would remain tied up in the DRC and the IMF, World Bank and US would not come up with any more money because Zimbabwe has not met the criteria set in the various loan and aid agreements struck over the past couple of years and the Government is adopting a decidedly anti-US stance.

To avoid a liquidity crisis, the Mugabe Government would have to immediately impose quite draconian exchange controls, the like of which have not been seen in Zimbabwe for more than a decade. It could even be forced into having to default on its debt payments.

Alternatively, the tobacco sales could go well, Mr Mugabe could withdraw his troops from the DRC, the IMF could release its US\$53 million and the US could pay its US\$120 million of aid.

There would be the small matter of inflation running at about 50 per cent and political uncertainty about who might succeed the 75-year-old Mr Mugabe, who has said he will retire by 2002. But, as Mervyn Ellis, a consultant economist who works for the World Bank among others, points out: "This country has never had good government. Yet the economy seems to come through all sorts of man-made disasters."

In Harare they are hoping that April will not bring one man-made disaster too many.

EXCHANGE RATES

Fast train to Bangkok

Great Railway Journeys

BBC2, 9.30pm Stephen Tompkinson, of Ballykissangel and Drop the Dead Donkey, is in larky mood for a trip from Singapore to Bangkok, mainly aboard the Eastern and Oriental Express. Given the restrictions of space and opportunities for avoiding spoilt, rich bores, "luxury" trains have always seemed to me a contradiction in terms, but the E&O looks to be well equipped, charmingly staffed and generous in its victualling. The passing scenery is certainly worth seeing and Tompkinson's self-scripted observations are direct and intelligent. Tellingly, it is on a side trip to the "Death Railway" constructed by prisoners of war for the Japanese, and the Bridge over the River Kwai, that the film moves up a notch or two. a notch or two.

Chasing the Tiger

BBC1. 10_30pm Five years ago, it was predicted that tigers would be extinct in the wild by the year 2000. As Julian Pettifer, who presents and narrates this film, points out, this has not happened but at the present rates of depredation, extinction is still likely. Touring India and parts of South-East Asia, he uncovers not only evidence of high-level indifference to the fate of tigers, but blatant flouting (in Japan) of the idea of conservation. Until the demand for tiger body parts (as cure-alls and virility potions) dries up all the remaining and virility potions) dries up, all the remaining tigers are in danger. What is more, population growth and the demand for land and wood for fuel suggest that, within a few years, India's surviving tigers will be confined to small pockets of tightly guarded forest, as much prisoners as any zoo-held animals in the world

Trading Places: French Exchange BBC1, 5.10pm

The start of a documentary series following pupils from a school in King's Lynn, Norfolk, on a week's visit to a town in the Champagne region of France. The youngest is 12 and the boys are outnumbered

Stephen Tompkinson on the E&O Express in Great Railway Journeys (BBC2, 9.30pm)

by the girls, who noticeably play up to the camera more. Advocates of earlier and more intensive more. Advocates of earther and more intensive foreign language teaching should find plenty of ammunition in the apparent disparity between Norfolk's French and Champagne's English but in the first programme the emphasis is on the nervousness (however well disguised) of the English children and the real cultural divide which exists to be bridged.

Dead Man Talking

Channel 4. 9pm Most of us love a detective story and many of us have recently enjoyed the archaeological investigations of Time Team and the like. Here's a tale which combines these attractions: a modern murder mystery in which a skeletal corpse must be identified before its killers can be tracked down. The body is turned up by a plough in a Hampshire field. Reconstruction and dental evidence suggest a non-English victim and the man is discovered to have been an illegal immigrant from India, living in liford, where he appears to have been killed Even if you have seen or recall newspaper reports of the case, it remains a thoroughly fascinating

The nature versus nurture argument still rages.

Long after it has been shown that both matter in

the development of people, the question of which

matters more still fascinates. That may seem an

odd thought to be prompted by this series, but

today's programme, in which Luke Zander, a

London doctor, talks about his brother Ben, con-

ductor of the Boston Philharmonic, perfectly illus-

trates what an upbringing in a highly motivated

household can contribute to the making of a rounded adult. The brothers grew up in a Jewish.

people: as boys, the Zanders would play cricket

RADIO CHOICE

How Tickled Am !? Radio 4. 11-30am

Mark Raddiffe is only the latest presenter to discover that the walls between the various BBC radio networks are not as high as they used to be: there was a time when presenters from Radio I had to wear disguises if they wandered into Radio 4's neck of the woods. Radcliffe presents this new series about northern comedians, which starts with Frank Randle, the hard-drinking "rebel from Wigan". Of course coming from Wigan gives a comedian an early advantage: in the days of music-hall you had only to say "Wigan" in front of a southern audience to get a laugh. The rest of the series features names that should be more familiar: Jimmy Clitheroe, Les Dawson, Ken Dodd. Jimmy James and Sandy Powell.

RADIO 1 (BBC)

6.30am Zoe Beil 9.00 Kevin Greening 12.00 Jo Whiley 2.00pm Mark Radclitte 4.00 Chris Moyles 5.45 Newsbeat 6.00 Dave Pearce 8.00 Steve Lamaco The Evening Session 10.00 Digital Update 10.10 John Peel 12.00 The Breezeblock 2.00am Clive Warren 4.00 Scott Miles

RADIO 2 (BBC)

6.00am Sarah Kennedy 7.30 Wake up to Wogan 9.30 Ken Bruce 12.00 Jimmy Young 2.00pm Ed Stewart 5.05 Johnnie Walker 7.00 Carl Davis Classic. New series of classic tracks from stage, screen, concert hall and opera 8.00 Nigel Ogden 9.00 A Century of New York 10.00 Whicker's New World (2/7) 10.30 Richard Alinson 12.00 Mo Dutta 3.00am Alex Laster

RADIO 5 LIVE (BBC) 5.00am Morning Reports 6.00 Breakfast with Julian Worncker

and Victoria Derbyshire 9.00 Nicky Campbell 12.00 The Midday News 1.00pm Ian Payne 4.00 Drive 7.00 News Extra 7.30 The Tuesday Match. Russell Fuller presents coverage of the FA Premiership fixtures between Arsenal and Blackburn Rovers at Highbury and Leicester City and Aston Villa at Filbert Street 10.00 Late Night Live 1.00am Up All Night

TALK RADIO

6.00am The Big Boys Breakfast 9.00 Scott Chisholm & Sally James 12.00 Crime Fighters 1.00pm Anna Reeburn 4.00 The Sports Zone 7.00 The World of Formula 1 8.00 Cheating Hearts 10.00 James Whale 1.00am Ian Collins

VIRGIN

Davies 1.00am James Memit 4.30 Phil Kennedy

6.30am Breaklast Show Team 9.30 Russ Williams 1.00pm Nick Abbot 4.00 Harriet Scott 6.45 Pete and Geoff 10.00 Gary

post-Second World War household which was full of music and literature and access to inspirational

The Musical Side of the Family

Radio 4. 1_30pm

with Benjamin Britten. BBC WORLD SERVICE 5.00am The World Today 7.00 World News 7.15 Cutlook 7.55 My Century 8.00 World News 8.05 World Business Report 8.15 Insight 8.30 On Screen 9.00 World News 9.05 Performance 9.20 Off the Shelf: News Of A Kidnapping 9.35 Discovery 10.00 World News 10.05 The Moonstone 10.20 The U.K. Top Twenty 10.50 Sports Round-Up 11.00 Newsdesk 11.30 Britain Today 11.45 World Business Report 12.00 Newsdesk 12.30pm Omnibus 1.00 World News 1.05 Outlook 1.45 Sports Round-Up 2.00 Newshour 3.00 World News 3.05 Discovery 3.30 On Screen 4.00 World News 4.05 Sports Round-Up 4.15 Westway 4.30 Everywomen 5.00 Europe Today 5.30 World Business Report 5.45 Insight 6.00 Newsdest. 6.30 Going South 6.45 Sports Round-Up 7.00 World News 7.15 Britain Today 7.30 Omnibus 8.00 World News 8.05 Discovery 8.30 Science Feedback 8.45 Off the Shalf. News Of A Kidnapping 9.00 Newshour 10.00 World News 10.05 World Business Report 10.20 Britain Today 10.30 Meridian Live 11.00 World

CLASSIC FM

News 11.15 Sports Round-Up 11.30 Jazzmatazz 12.00 World News 12.05am Outlook 12.45 Insight 1.00 The World Today

1.39 Discovery 1.55 My Century 2.00 The World Today 2.30

On Screen 3.00 The World Today 3.30 World Bu siness Report

3.45 Insight 4.00 The World Today 4.20 Sports Round-Up

6.00am Michael Mappin's Easier Breaklast. Soothing music and information updates 8.00 Henry Kelly. The Hall of Fame Hour and CD of the Week 12.00 Lunchtime Requests. Jane Jones introduces listeners' (avourités 2,00pm Concerto. Rozsa (Spellbound Concerto); Rota (The Legend of the Glass Mountain) 3.00 Jamie Crick Continuous Classics and Attempon Romance 6.30 Newsnight. Sport, finance and news updates, with John Brunning 7.00 Smooth Classics at Seven. John Brunning introduces classical sounds 9.00 Evening Concert. Gershwin (Phapsody in Blue); Strauss (Der Rosenkavalier Suite); Orlf (Carmina Burana) 11.00 Mann at Night. Music and conversation through till the small hours 2.00am Concerto Rozsa (Spellbound Concerto), Rota (The Legend of the Glass Mountain) (r) 3.00 Mark Griffiths The Early Br ealdest Show

RADIO 3

6.00am On Air with Petroc Trelawny, including a review of the new film The Red Violin 9.00 Masterworks with Peter Hobday. Beethoven (Variations on En Madchen oder Weibchen, Op 66); Moeran (Overture to a Masque); Beethoven (Variations in C minor, WoO 80); Rigatti (Magnifical); Beethoven (Variations on Mozart's

Bei Mannern, welche Liebe fuhlen', WoO 46); Goldmark (Violin Concerto No 1 in A minor) 10.30 Artist of the Week: John Tomlinson 11.00 Sound Stories: Cathedrals Richard Baker investigates the significance of Westminister Abbey to playwrights, poets and musicians 12.00 Composer of the Week: Britten (r)

1.00pm The Radio 3 Lunchtime Concert Chantal Juliet, violin, David Owen Norms, piano. Copland (Violin Sonate); Amy Beach (Three Pieces, Op 40); MacDowell (To a Wild Rose, Woodland Sketches); Ethelbert Nevin (Narcissus, Water Scenes);

Congliano (Violin Sonata) 2.00 The BBC Orchestras BBC National Orchestra of

4.00 Voices lain Burnside introduces a selection of songs written in 1998 (r) 5.00 In Tune Sean Rafferty talks to Christopher Page about Richard the Lionheart on the 800th

anniversary of the death of the English monarch
7.30 Performance on 3 A recital recorded last February at the Festival Hall, London. Daniel Barenboim, piano. Beethoven (Piano Sonatas in C

minor, Op 13, Pathetique; in E. Op 109); Debussy (Prejudes, Book 1) 9.20 Postscript: Cinema Apocolyptica (2/5) 9.45 Job The European premiere, given in 1997 at London's Barbican Hall, of Peter Maxwell Davies's powerful and imaginative oratorio, dramatising the Old Testament story of suffering and innocence. Catherine Pierard, soprano, Catherine

Wyn-Rogers, mezzo, Mark Padmore, tenor, Kevin MacMillan, baritone, BBC Singers. City of London Sinfonia under Richard Hickox 11.00 Night Waves Richard Coles talks to the historian Keith Thomas

11.30 Jazz Notes Alyn Shipton presents the second part of the concert given by Bucky Pizzarelli and the John Colliani Tho

12.00 Through the Night Includes Wassanaer (Concerto No 1) 12.25 Field (Rondo for piano and strings) 12.30 Tchaikovsky (Romeo and Juliet) 12.55 Mozart (Ave verum corpus) 1.00 Music from the time of Maxmittan 1 2.00 List (Tasso) 2.25 Martinu (Madrigals) 2.40 Szymanowski (Variations, Op 3) 2.50 Brahms (Symphony No 4) 3.35 Strauss (Cello Sonata) 4.00 Stravinsky (8 Instrumental Miniatures) 4.10 Mozart (Divertimento, K137) 4.20 Monteverdi (Magnifical) 4.45 Faure (for harp) 5.00 Mozart (Bassoon and Cello Sonata, K292) 5.15 Mendlessohn (Violin Concerto in E minor) 5.45 Scarlatti (Sonala, K87) 5.50 Gaubert (Aquarelle No 1)

RADIO 4

5.30am World News 5.35 Shipping Forecast 5.40 Inshore Forecast 5.45 Prayer for the Day 5.47 Farming Today Charlotte Smith presents 6.00 Today Introduced by Sue MacGregor 9.00 Unrefiable Evidence The mysteries of the legal system are uncovered with the aid of Clive

Anderson and other expert guests

9.30 Song Lines David Stallord reveals the origins of the song Happy Birthday, penned by Patty and Mildred Hill (3/5) (r)

9.45 (LW) Daily Service Director of music Paul Leddington Wright 9.45 (FM) Serial: Just William — The 80th Anniversary Martin Jarvis reads That Boy, by **Richmal Cromoton** 10.00 Woman's Hour Martha Kearney speaks to Maggie McCune about her daughter's

edraordinary marriage

11.00 Tales from the Back of Bayond Marc Francis
learns about the fives of China's Dong people,
larned for their vocal abilities (r)

11.30 How Tickled Am !? New series. See Choice (1/8)

12.00 (LW) News Headlines; Shipping Forecast
12.00 (FM) News 12.04pm You and Yours Topical 1.00 The World at One With James Cox

1.00 The World at One With James Cox
1.30 The Musical Side of the Family See Choice
2.00 The Archers Broadcast yeslerday (r)
2.15 Afternoon Play: Desert Island Desserts
Comedy by Alexandra Cadali. Two interviewees
from Desert Island Discs find the reality of being
merooned less than satisfactory. Starring Nicholas
Le Provost, Eddie Marsan and Sue Lawley (r)
3.00 The Exchange: 0870 010 0444 Peter White
invites listeners' views on a honest ion to

invites listeners' views on a topical issue
3.30 What's Yours is Mine Couples talk about how money affects their relationships. Rory Cellan-Jones presents (1/4) (r)

3.45 This Sceptred Isle Anna Massey namales part 67 of the history of Britain (r) 4.00 A Good Read The cornectian Rob Newman and the writer Sara Wheeler discuss their tavourite 4.30 Shop Talk Business mattersn 5.00 PM with Clare English and Chrs Lowe

6.00 Six O'Clock News 6.30 I'm Glad You Asked Me That Officeat guide to modern living, with Michael Bywater, Sean Meo

and Philip Pope (2/6)
7.00 The Archers The latest from Ambridge 7.15 Front Row The live nightly arts programme. presented by Mark Lawson 7.45 Diary of a Provincial Lady E.M. Delafield's

household journal, starring Irrielda Staunton and Richard Hope. Broadcast earlier as part of Woman's Hour (r) 8.00 Face the Facts John Waite and his team follow

up listeners' complaints 8.40 in Touch Peter White presents news for visually

unpaired people

9.00 Case Notes Special Graham Easton reveals how to keep lungs healthy

9.30 Unreitable Evidence Broadcast earlier (r)

10.00 The World Tonight with Justin Webb

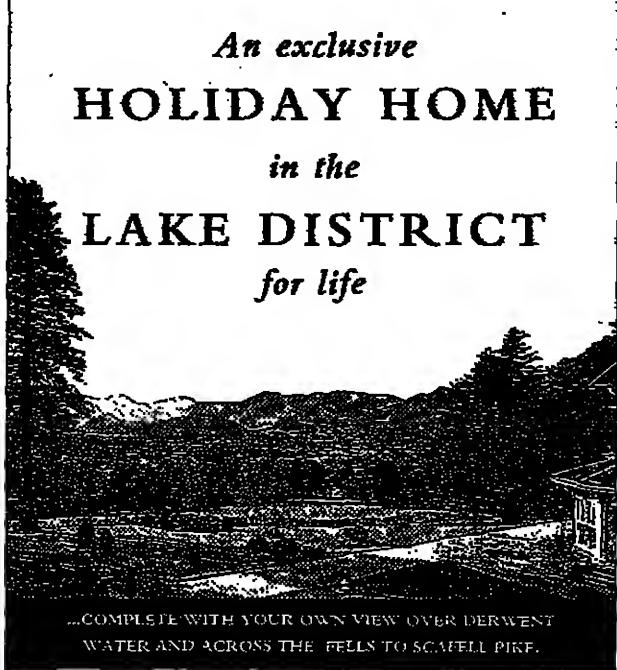
10.45 Book at Bedtime: Archangel by Robert Harris. A

man claims he knows the whereabouts of Stake's notebook. Read by Alan Howard

11.00 Late Night on 4: The Now Show Stand-up comedy and sketches with Steve Punt and Hugh

Dennis (r) 11.30 Talking Pictures the latest lim news 12.00 News12.30am The Late Book: Earthly Joys Kevin Whately reads Philippa Gregory's novel about the life of the Jacobean gardener and adventurer John Tradescant 12.48 Shipping Forecast 1.00 As World Service

FREQUENCY GUIDE, RADIO 1, FM 97.6-99.8. RADIO 2, FM 88.0-90.2. RADIO 3, FM 90.2-92.4. RADIO 4. FM: 92.4-94.6; LW 198; MW 720, RADIO 5 LIVE, MW 693, 909. WORLD SERVICE, MW 648; LW 198 | 12.45-5.553m). CLASSIC FM. FM 100-102, VIRGIN RADIO, FM 105.8; MW 1197, 1215, TALK RADIO, MW 1053, 1089. Television and radio listings compiled by Perry Cleveland-Peck, lan Hughes, Gillian Maxey, Jane Gregory and



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Answers from page 26

BITESHEEP

(b) A rude name for a bishop. A favourite pun, as if a bishop were one bites the sheep which he ought to feed. Originally German beischaf. "Your Bishops are Bitesheep, Your Deans are Dunces."

WORD-WATCHING

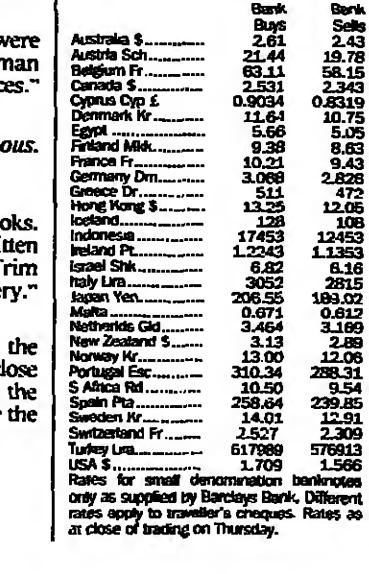
ALACRIOUS (a) Brisk. lively, active. From the Latin alacris, cf. hilarious. "Alacrious attempts to redeem time."

BABERY (c) Grotesque ornamentation in architecture and books. Grotesque absurdity. Perhaps originally a spoken or written corruption of baboonery. Sir Philip Sidney, Arcadia, 1580: Trim books in Velvet Dight/With golden leaves and painted babery." **BRANKS**

(c) A scold's bridle. An instrument of punishment used in the case of scolds, consisting of a kind of iron framework to enclose the head, having a sharp metal gag or bit which entered the mouth and restrained the tungue. A Scotch word found since the loth century, of unknown etymology.

SOLUTION TO WINNING MOVE

.. Qxbi+! 2 Nxbi Rdi checkmate



Moving magic out into the real world

D aul Zenon approaches strangers in the street, in Zenon approaches pubs, in car parks, in shops and plays bewitchingly slick tricks on them. In Paul Zenon Turning Tricks (Channel 4), we saw how he makes a woman's credit card vanish and then makes it reappear inside his own waller. Signed playing cards materialise inside a iake-away doner kebab. He seems to print new £10 notes, or to make them vanish and turn up miraculously inside an uncut lemon. He tears coins in half. He walks into a fetish shop and leaves match for me'. after having linked a woman's nosering to a man's earring.

Zenon is part of a new movement to move the magician away from the artificiality of the stage and into the heart of everyday life. Ever alert to giving the public what it wants, this trend may be what inspired Tony Blair. George Robertson and Robin Cook to move their magic out of

the Cabinet room and into the real world: "You Sir. Yes. you Sir. Now watch closely. See this country? Take a close look and satisfy yourself that it is in fact Serbia. Now, it's being run by a vile, murderous dictator called Milosevic. We're going to sign his card. Will you please verify to the audience that we have done that? Right. Now, see those bombers? We're going to blitz Serbian military installations and five days later Milosevic puts his hands up and says You're more than a

"And the beauty of this trick is that, because it is morally just and because it works so smoothly, we don't even have to think too hard in advance about what might happen if he doesn't give up, or if our actions swell the refugee crisis, or if we have to send in ground troops, or if we pledge to prosecute him for war crimes when this is over, thereby denting his incentive

to desist. Now watch closely as the magic begins."

Yup, that's what makes Zenon so impressive. His tricks work effortlessly. The downside of playing tricks on Milosevic is that he's one of those cynical spoilsports who sits in the audience and says. "Yeah, I've seen that manoeuvre before and I know how it's done, so you can't fool me." Let's now hope that Blair, Robertson and Cook don't end up making a name for themselves on the club circuit as the only magicians who perform tricks in such a way that it is the magicians who are left wondering how the punter tricked them.

he story of little men pitted against an unfathomable. murderous, untameable beast also raised its head in Moby Dick (BBC2), which used the oil-on-glass animation technique to haunting effect to condense Melville into just half an hour

6.00 GMTV (2102896)

HTV

1.25 Breakaways Turkey (r) (93806506)

find out (1) (16415877)

3.15 HTV News (T) (5079457)

How 2 (2219877)

5.58 HTV Weather (395544)

6.00 HTV News (T) (640506)

7.00 Emmerdale (1) (7438)

affairs reports (525)

, Barrie

policing (T) (8877)

Cardale (1) (1341)

Superintendent Brownlow co-

operates with a film crew (8pm)

agrees to co-operate with a fly-on-the-

wall documentary about modern-day

8.00 The Bill Superintendent Brownlow

9.00 Peak Practice Clare Shearer returns to

10.00 Wonderful You Heather regrets a night

11.00 ITV Nightly News; Weather (T) (444728)

11.30 The Big Match Preview of Manchester

2.25 Decoration Day (TVM 1990) A retired.

widowed judge finds new purpose in life.

Drama, starring James Gamer. Directed

4.10 Wish You Were Here? (1) (68148200)

4,40 Coach Luther goes hunting (83092007)

by Robert Markowitz (982397)

11.20 HTV News and Weather (T) (322167)

United v Juventus (56525)

12.00 Tales from the Crypt (r) (49910)

1.30 The Haunted Fishtank (89129)

2.00 Judge Judy (T) (8963991)

5.00 ITV Nightscreen (38465)

12.30am Football Extra Highlights (44129)

spent with Alan (5/7) (T) (1728)

5.00 Lie Detector (r) (1) (1542)

2.40 Wheel of Fortune (T) (2362490)

3.10 ITV News Headlines (T) (5070186)

1.30 Lie Detector New series. Dominic Green

1.55 The Jerry Springer Show (1) (5373235)

3.20 CITV: Mopatop's Shop (5050322) 3.30

5.30 WEST: Can You Keep a Secret? Family

surprise show (5/7) (T) (148)

5.30 WALES: Night Owls (5/6) (1) (148)

6.25 Kosovo Refugees Appeal (905070)

6.30 ITV Evening News; Weather (I) (341)

7.30 WEST: West Eye View Regional current

7.30 WALES: High Performance Profile of

the actor Rhys Ifans (4/6) (T) (525)

Rosie and Jim (5824728) 3.40 The

Wombles (4323051) 3.50 Scooby Doo

(7229070) 4.10 Snap (7399631) 4.40

invites viewers whose friends or family

suspect them of lying to undergo tests to

REVIEW

Joe

loseph



مكذا سالاصل

without making you irritated by the stripping of the plot to its barest thread. The claborate technique - by Moscow's Man And Time film studio exquisitely captured the movement of the sea, of the Pequod and of the great white whale, while at the same time heightening the adventure's mythic qualities. It was produced by S4C, Channel

Four Wales, which produced the

Oscar-nominated Canterbury Tales, and the series of animated Shakespeare plays.

Lenny Henry, meanwhile, is still trying to pull off the trick that keeps many talented comics awake at night: doing something more than just making people laugh. Rory Bremner is translating operas. Steve Martin now writes for The New Yorker, 10 show us that he has literary talent as well as Rolex-accurate slapstick timing. Every so often Woody Allen will make a movie that is even less funny than a heart attack, just to show that he can.

In The Man (BBCl) Henry gets to sing all his pet songs (as in James Brown numbers, rather than in How Much is That Doggy in the Window), just as he does in those for-one-night-only charity shows in West End theatres when all the other comics are doing comedy and he's belting out Rhythm and Blues. The Man does

have a plot: a Midlands estate agent, Dennis, hankering after a rock star life, who eventually realises what's really important in life when his girlfriend and friends all leave him. But it's essentially a string of great songs strung. like gaudy beads, onto a twine necklace. At times it felt like you were watching BBC drama with Coca Cola and Levis commercials every four minutes as one classic tune followed another.

enny was clearly having the time of his life. but were we? Strangely, I was, mostly. In a mild sort of way. It takes quite an acting range to span humptious go-getter to heartbroken loser in under two hours. Jack Lemon can do funny and serious, very often within the same minute. But it's a massive trick to pull off. However, what Henry lacks in acting expertise - compared, say, to Marianne Jean-Baptiste, who

shone in her role as Henry's girlfriend, Michelle - he makes up for in genial watchability. And hey, great songs!

More fab tunes in The Bay City Rollers - Remember? (BBC1). and actually, yes, it is hard to remember just how huge a success they were in their tarian-trimmed clown's outfits (they still are in Japan: look no further for evidence of the unfathomability of the Japanese).

This was a well-made documentary about the Scottish band and their bubblegum pop, and about how fame made them neither happy nor rich, and I'm glad I saw it. But 1 m not quite as cheered by news that the band is reforming. So to the producers of The Bay City Rollers - Remember? the answer is "Yes we do, but can we now forget again, please?" Because, as we all know, magic tricks are never quite so convincing the second time around.

BBC1 6.00am Business Breakfast (30148) 7.00 BBC Breakfast News (T) (76877) 9.00 Kilroy (T) (9269186) 9.45 Style Challenge (8903506) 10.10 The Vanessa Show (T) (8897029) 10.55 News; Weather (T) (9204983)

परत 🚰 11.00 Change That (9281032) 11.25 Can't Cook, Won't Cook (T) (9291419) 4 Mg. 11.55 News; Weather (T) (7493362) 171 Pa 12.00 Going for a Song New series of the antiques quiz (5786849) 12.25pm Wipeout (6231934)

12.50 The Weather Show (T) (76181051) 1.00 One O'Clock News (T) (79964) 1.30 Regional News; Weather (58268895) 1.40 Neighbours Sarah faces an uncertain future (T) (16419693)

2.05 tronside (r) (1307051) 2.55 Through the Keyhole (r) (T) (2373506) 3.25 Children's BBC: Help! It's the Hair Bear Bunch (8703490) 3.45 Arthur (2707728) 4.10 Anthony Ant (1544612) 4.20 Julia Jekyll and Harriel Hyde (5007902) 4.35 Rugrats (7708235) 5.00 Newsround

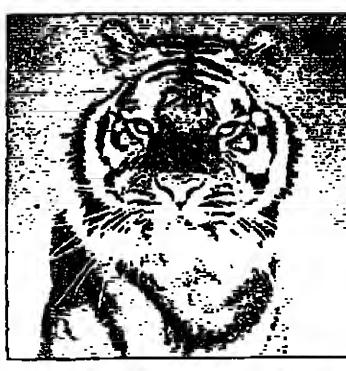
(5730032) 5.10 CROICE Trading Places: French Exchange Following a group of schoolchildren on an exchange visit to Champagne (2591631) 5,33 Rewind (T) (381341)

5.35 Neighbours (r) (T) (700186) 6.00 Six O'Clock News; Weather (T) (693) 6.30 Regional News Magazine (273) 7.00 Holiday Jill Dando visits the Italian resort of Capri, white Kate Sanderson soaks up

the sun on the Caribbean island of St Kitts (T) (5070) 7.30 EastEnders Melanie has second thoughts (T) (457) 8.00 Animal Hospital (1) (1490)

8.30 Supernatural: The Unseen Powers of Animals How animals survive harsh environments (T) (6475) 9.00 Nine O'Clock News; Regional News; Weather (T) (8761)

9.30 Jailbirds Sue has an emotional reunion with her boyfriend (1) (85964) 10.00 The Vicar of Dibley Comedy, starring Dawn French (r) (T) (71273)



The tiger, one of the world's most endangered species (10.30pm)

10.30 CHOICE Chasing the Tiger The future of the big cats (T) (881070) 11.20 Billy Connolly's World Tour of Australia Billy samples life in the Outback (r) (T) (554709)

12.00 The Sunshine Boys (1975) Neil Simon's sentimental comedy, starring Walter Matthau and George Burns Directed by Herbert Ross (T) (706842) 1.45am Weather (2466858) 1.50 BBC News 24 (54929991)

WALES 6.30pm-7.00 Wales Today 1.45am-1.50 News and Weather (2466858)

BBC2 7.00am Children's BBC Breakfast Show: Polka Dot Shorts 7.10 The Silver Brumby 7.35 Top Cat 7.55 The Bots Master 8.20 Buried Treasure 8.40 Goober and the Ghost Chasers 9.05 The Midas Touch 9.35 Student Bodies 10.00 Teletubbies 10.30 FILM The Ugly Dachshund (94254) 12.00 Wildlife Showcase (78186) 12.30pm Working Lunch (96070) 1.00

Oakie Doke (38493273) 1.10 The Leisure Hour (1002877) 2.10 Sporting Greats (89174525) 2.40 News; Wealher (T) (8585877)

2.45 On Cue with Steve Davis 1998 Benson and Hedges Masters Final (5331709) 3.25 News; Weather (T) (5071815) 3.30 The Village (r) (2700815)

3.55 Kaye Advice show (2785506) 4.25 Ready, Steady, Cook (T) (7393457) 4.55 Esther (T) (9585167) 5.30 Whose House? (322)

6.00 The Fresh Prince of Bel-Air US comedy with Will Smith (r) (T) (646780) 6.25 Heartbreak High Lee's 18th birthday celebrations are ruined (1) (826631) 7.10 The O Zone Martine McCulcheon talks

about life after Albert Square (T) (651032) 7.30 Counterblast Dr Charles Lane reveals the defrimental consequences of international wildlife conservation projects on people in Africa (2/6) (1) (159) 8.00 University Challenge Durham v Trinity

College, Cambridge (T) (9032) 8.30 Your Money or Your Life Alvin Hall helps a 37-year-old Army major sort out her shaky finances (6/6) (T) (8167)



Classic comedy starring Tony Hancock (9pm)

9.00 Hancock's Half Hour Tony Hancock embarks on a marathon train journey to the wilds of Yorkshire (r) (1) (9631)

9.30 Great Railway Journeys
Stephen Tompkinson boards the Eastern and Oriental Express bound for Bangkok (1) (477506) 10.20 Coming Clean: The Truth About

Housework Last In series (T) (559341) 10.30 Newsnight (889612) 11.18 Video Nation Shorts (T) (942070) 11.20 Young Musicians (545051)

12.00 The Phil Silvers Show Doberman reveals a hidden talent (r) (1) (8199129) 12.25am Weather (2322910)

12.30 BBC Learning Zone: Open University. Asthma and the Bean 12.55 CyberArt: Technosphere 1.00 The Front Desk 1.30 Just Seventeen: The Geometry of Patterns 2.00 Exam Revision: GCSE Bitesize Revision — Science 4 4.00 Languages, Espana Vival 5.00 Business and Training Career Moves - Leisure 5.45 Open University: Hidden Power 6.10 Of Fish and People: Modelling a Muddle 6.35 Free Body Diagrams

THE PARTY OF THE P 9.00pm Sophie Grigson's Herbs (1) (9631)

CENTRAL

5.30am ITV Morning News (76438) As HTV West except: 12.20pm-12.30 Central News; Weather (T) (9543148) 12.55 Lie 9.25 CITV: Tiny Toons (7265341) 9.50 Detector (T) (2924964) 1.25 The Jerry Springer Show (T) (4198780) 2.10-2.40 Heart Fantastic Voyages of Sinbad The Sailor of the Country (8/18) (r) (T) (89161051) (7281322) 10.15 Bugs Bunny (7543235) Central News: Weather (T 3.15-3.20 10.25 ITV News Headlines (T) (2388438) (5079457) 5.30 Shortland Street (148) 10.30 Mysterious Island (1961) A group of prison escapers find themselves in a strange land inhabited by fabrious 6.00-6.25 Central News at Sb; Weather (640506) **7.30-8.00 30 Minutes** (525) 11.20-11.30 Central News: Weather () creatures. Sci-li adventure, starring (322167) 12.05am Football Extra (9180552) Michael Craig and Herbert Lom. Directed 1.05 The Haunted Fishtank (3878281) 1.40 by Cy Endfield (T) (49462235) Judge Judy (T) (9452561) 2.00 FILM: 12.15pm HTV News (T) (7325419) Decoration Day (963262) 3.45 Wish You 12.30 ITV Lunchtime News (T) (2949273) Were Here? (r) (T) (98858) 4.15 Central 12.55 Shortland Street (2924964) Jobfinder '99 (T) (9995303) 5.20-5.30 Asian

WESTCOUNTRY

Eye (9790262)

As HTV West except 12.15pm Westcountry (7325419) (II) 12.27-12.30 illuminations 12.55-1.25 Westcountry Lunchtime Live; Weather (T) (2924964) 1.25 The Jerry Springer Show (T) 2.10-2.40 Lie Detector (1) (89161051) 3.15-3.20 Westcountry News: Weather (T) (5079457) 4.58-5.00 Birthday People (9794952) 5.30 Our House (T) (148) 6.00-6.25 Westcountry Live; Weather (T) (640506) 7.30-8.00 Stranger Than Fiction (T) (525) 11.20-11.30 Westcountry News, Weather (T) (322167) 12.00-12.30 The Making of Arlington Road (49910)

A PROPERTY OF THE PARTY OF THE

As HTV West except: 12.15pm-12.30 Meridian News; Weather (7325419) 5.30 Monkey Business (2/7) (r) (148) 6.00-6.25 Meridian Tonight (T) (640506) 7.29 Meridian Weather (866493) **7.30-8.00 The Plai**n (3/4) (r) (T) (525) **11.20-11.30 Meridian News;** Weather (T) (322167) 12.00-12.30 Pler Pressure (49910) **5.00am-5.30 Freescreen** (1) (38465)

As HTV West except: 12.14pm Anglia Air Watch (9556612) 12.15-12.30 Anglia News and Weather (7325419) 5.25-6.00 About Anglia (5799934) 6.00-6.25 Anglia News (T) (640506) 7.30-8.00 Out to Lunch with Brian **Turner (525) 11.19 Anglia Air Watch (946896)** 11.20-11.30 Anglia News and Weather (T) (322167) 12.00-12.30 Tales from the **Darkside** (r) (49910)

Starts: **5.55am Sesame Street** (r) (28238167)

7.00 The Big Breakfast (69198631) 9.00 The Bigger Breakfast (92401322) 9.05 Saved By the Bell (T) (92265438) 9.30 Sam and Max (93559273) 10.00 Eerie, Indiana: The Other Dimension (T) (83310341) 10.30 CatDog (T) (39100341) 10.45 Planet Pop (41127083) 11.15 Moesha (I) (44377506) 11.45 The Bigger Breakfast (99465761) 12.00 Dawson's Creek (T) (93549896) 1.00pm Planed Plant (T) (69168490) 1.30 Collectors' Lot (T) (85740322) 1.45 FILM: Alive and Kicking (1) (97042099) 3.30 Collectors' Lot (T) (99581544) 4.00 Fifteen-to-One (T) (99560051) 4.30 Ricki Lake (T) (99566235) 5.00 Planed Plant (41948148) 5.30 Countdown (T) (99580815) 6.00 Newyddion 6 (T) (49014235) **6.10 Heno** (T) (39895780) **7.00** Pobol y Cwm (1) (41951612) 7.30 Newyddion (1) (99567964) 8.00 Sian James Yn Slapan (1) (41937032) 8.30 Pengelli (T) (41956167) 9.00 Tair Chwaer (r) (T) (27688235) 10.00 Brookside (T) (51305780) 10.35 Queer as Folk (7/8) (1) (92818419) 11.15 The 11 O'Clock Show (87675780) 11.50 Smack the Pony (1) (67538099) 12.20am The Establishment (1/6) (T) (15462262) 12.50 The Last of the Hiding Tribes (1/3) (1) (86141674) 1.50 Diwedd

CHANNEL 4

5.55am Sesame Street (r) (5208235) 7.00 The Big Breakfast (92815) 9.00 The Bigger Breakfast (1) (3419902) 9.05 Saved By the Bell (7250419)

9.30 Sam and Max (87322) 10.00 Eerie, Indlana: The Other Dimension **10.30 CatDog** (3293148)

10.45 Planet Pop (810631) 11.15 Moesha (817544) 11.45 The Bigger Breakfast (2542896) 12.00 Sesame Street (T) (63254)

12.30pm Bewitched (r) (T) (98438) 1.00 Pet Rescue Highlights (r) (T) (95902) 1.30 Mountain Gorlila (58251506) 1.40 Wuthering Heights (1939) Adaptation

of Emily Bronté's classic novel. Merle Oberon and Laurence Olivier star. Directed by William Wyler (1) (32517506) 3.30 Collectors' Lat (T) (419) 4.00 Fifteen-to-One (T) (254)

4.30 Countdown (T) (7725902) 4.55 Ricki Lake (T) (9570235) 5.30 Pet Rescue (T) (490)

6.00 King of the Hill Bot by has a trial for the school wrestling team (r) (T) (631) 6.30 Home Improvement Lauren fails to be impressed by Randy's new-found karate

skills (T) (980761) 6.55 Planet Pop Music magazine (772964) 7.00 Channel 4 News; Weather (T) (930693) 7.55 Dovetales (5/8) (T) (825815)

8.00 Brookside Jimmy gives Lindsey some much-needed advice (T) (4728) 8.30 Classic British Cars 1947 Jowett Javelin and 1963 Hillman Imp (T) (3235)



The medical artist Richard Neave at work on the skeleton (9pm)

9.00 CHOICE Dead Man Talking Report on the discovery of a decomposing body buried in a field in Hampshire (T) (9983)

10.00 Father Ted The priests dice with death (r) (T) (64983) 10.30 Queer as Folk Stuart throws a 30th

birthday party for Vince (7/8) (T) (413728) 11.10 The 11 O'Clock Show Satirical comedy with lain Lee (T) (642438) 11.45 Electric Avenue New series about the

Inhabitants of a Brixton community. The first programme introduces the restaurateur Vincent Osborne (1/4) (402159) 12.15am Hitler's Forgotten Victims The reality of life for prisoners of Nazi concentration camps (r) (2439668)

1.20 The Wonderful, Horrible Life of Leni Riefenstahl The German film-maker's turbulent life and career (r) (T) (5886668) 2.50 Kid Millions (1934) Musical comedy, starring Eddie Cantor as a simpleton who inherits a fortune and falls foul of a variety of money-grabbing characters. Directed

4.30 Palmy Days (1931) Comedy musical staming Eddie Cantor as a bogus fortune teller's stooge. Directed by A. Edward Sutherland (8799755)

by Roy del Ruth (846281)

CHANNEL 5

6.00am 5 News and Sport Current events (5063457) 7.00 WideWorld Part three. The technical advances made by Portuguese explorers (r) (T) (2913273)

7.30 Milkshake! (2701631)

7.35 Dappledown Farm (r) (4132544) 8.00 Alvin and the Chipmunks (r) (8912877) 8.30 Witchworld; 5 News Update (8911148) 9.00 Was It Good For You? (1) (4876273)

9.25 Russell Grant's Postcards (3334693) 9.35 The Oprah Winfrey Show (6931896) 10.25 Sunset Beach Michael confronts Virginia (T) (4317070)

11.15 Leeza (3098983) 12.00 5 News at Noon (T) (8915964)

12.30pm Family Affairs Benji delends Maggre's honour (r) (T) (3336713) 1.00 The Bold and the Beautiful Sally receives bad news (T) (2912544)

1.30 The Roseanne Show Entertainment and chat with the outrageous comedian; 5 News Update (1033344) 2.00 100 Per Cent Gold (2216761) 2.30 Good Afternoon Lifestyle programmes;

5 News Update (8809631) 3.30 Vanishing Act (TVM 1986) A bride disappears while on honeymoon, leaving her newlywed husband grasping at

straws in a bid to find her. Thriller, staming Elliot Gould. Directed by David Greene (T) (2083419) 5.20 5 News (59324525)

5.30 100 Per Cent (6210728) 6.00 5 News; Weather Round-up of the day's

stories (T) (6200341) 6.30 Family Affairs Sadle shows off her

cookery skills (1) (6291693) 7.00 Knight Rider Bonnie is kidnapped by an

elitist intellectual organisation and forced to reprogramme KITT to participate in a museum robbery and kill Michael. David Hasselhoft stars (r) (2227877)

7.30 Animai Marvels A close-up look at grant armies of ants, exploring their relationship with plants (T): 5 News

Update (6297877) 8.00 Computer Software: Are You Being Cheated? New series. Real-life lootage of fraudsters and cheats, beginning with the growing problem of software piracy. Will Daws examines claims that computer companies encourage this kind of anme by overpricing their goods, and reveals the true extent of this thriving underground industry (1/4) (T) (2236525)

8.30 What Went Wrong? Dramatic loolage and computer reconstructions of real-life catastrophes (2215032) 9.00 White Mile (TVM 1994) Alan Alda stars

as an advertising agency head who persuades his colleagues to go white-water rafting on the treacherous nvers of British Columbia — with tragic consequences. Directed by Robert Buller (T); 5 News Update (49360099)

10.50 Two Gus embarks on a relationship with a passionate woman, but gets more than he bargained for when her mysterious past comes to light (3770803) 11.45 Kosovo Appeal (6495490)

11.50 Live and Dangerous Soccer action from the Duich league (63179964) 5.30am 100 Per Cent (r) (6934007)

VIDEO Plus+ and VIDEO Plus+ codes The numbers after each programme are for VIDEO Plus+ programming. Just enter the VIDEO Plus+ number(s) for the relevant programme(s) into your video recorder for easy taping. For more details call VIDEO Plus+ on 0640 750710. Calls charged at 25p per minute at all times. VIDEO Plus+®, 14 Blacklands Trc, London, SW3 2SP VIDEO Plus+® is a registered trademark of Gernstar Development Corporation. © 1998

SATELLITE, CABLE AND DIGITAL

• For further listings see Saturday's Vision SKY ONE

7.00am Count Duckula (29983) 7.30 Grimmy (93790) 8.00 Earlhworm Jim. 119457) 8.30 Godzila (18728) 9.00 Pokemon (92780) 9.30 The Simpsons (36612) 10.00 Shadow Raiders (81235) 10.30 Xena Warnor Princess (72780) 11.30 Legend of the Hidden City (44167) 12.00 Tarzan (26235) 1.00pm Jeopardy (28254) 1.30 Jeopardy (46099) 2.00 Sally Jessy Raphael (82964) 3,00 Jenny Jones (48983) 4.00 Pokemon [7916] 4.30 Shadow Raiders (9780) 5.00 Star Trek Voyager (6341) 6.00 America's Dumbest Commats (2083) 8.30 Dream Team (1525) 7.00 The Simpsons (7070) 7.30 The Simpsons [7708] 8.00 Speed (3490) 8.30 Speed (2525) 9.00 Police Stop! (651 48) 10.00 The World's Scarest Police Chases (68235) 11.00 Dream Team (35419) 11.30 Ster Tiek: Veyager (90254) 12.30am Law and Order (88533) 1,30 Long Play (4790465)

SKY BOX OFFICE Sky's pay-per-view movie channels. To view any film relephone 0990 800888 SKY BOX OFFICE 1 (Transponder 51) Sky 80x OFFICE 2 (Transponder 60) Jackie Brown (1997) SRY BOX OFFICE 3 (Transponder 50) Fubber (1997) Sky BOX OFFICE 4 (Transponder 58) Klas the Girls (1998)

SKY PREMIER

8.00am Crossing Detancey (1988) (50099) 8.00 House Arrest (1996) (17798709) 9.45 First KId (1996) (596254) 11.45 Crossing Delancey (1988) (78324273) 1.30pm Contact (1997) (341419) 4.00 House Arrest (1996) (9815) 6.00 First Kid (1996) (60693) 8.00 Contact (1997) (962065) 10.30 Absolute Power (1997) 146419) 12.30am Criminal Law (1989) (75427842) 2.35 The Perez Famely (1995) (152262) 4.30 The Directors Lawrence Nesdan (59552)

SKY MOVIEMAX 5.05em The Rockford Files: Blessing in Disguise (1995) 154(65341; 7.00 No More Bathe! (1997) (10235) 9.00 Little Cobras: Operation Dalmatian (1987) (86780) 11.00 Heart Full of Rain (1997)

(44506) 1.00 No More Baths! (1997) (97896) 3.00 Little Cobras: Operation Delmatian (1997) (94070) 5.00 Heart Full Rain (1997) (35877) 7.00 The Rockford Files: Godfather Knows Best (1996) (34815) 9.00 Bionic Everation (1994) (59099) 10.30 How to Gel Ahead in Film (84761) 11.00 Year of the Dragon (1985) (43022506) 1.15am One Hot Summer Night (1997) (948484) 2.45

Pretty Poison (1996) (938007) 4.15 The

Rockford Flies: Godfather Kno ws Best

(1996) (32479113) SKY CINEMA 4.00pm Pack Up Your Troubles (1932)

(7525525) 6.00 The New Adventures of Tarzan (1935) (7657326) 8.00 92 in the Shade (1975) (65289525) 9.45 Cinema Nation A Night at the Rex (4845322) 10.00 Salvador (1986) (86055167) 12.05am 100 Years - 100 Movies Against the Grain (3204281) 12.55 The Ses Wolves (1980) (7400-33) 2.55 Abbott and Costello Meet the Invisible Man (1951) (28617194) 4.20 On Dangerous Ground (1951) (6305755) FILMFOUR

5.00pm Robin and Marian (1976) [65681709] 7.50 Mr Morris (5429896) 8.00 Good Morning, Vietnam (1987) (93745964) 10.05 The Usual Suspects (1995) (7549235) 12.00 American Buffalo (1995) (6150466) 1.30am Things Change (1998) (3872620) 3.10 Vanya on 42nd Street (1994) (67905484) 6.00 Close

9.00pm Crucifer of Blood (TVM 1991) (93556693) 11,00 The Haunting (1963) (99663964) 1.15em Night Must Fall (1964) (71.275484) 3.00 Cruciter of Blood (TVM 1991) (84899129) 5.00 Close

SKY SPORTS 1 7.00am Sports Centre 7.15 V-Max 7.45 Total Sport 8, 15 You're On Sty Sports! 9,00 Racing News 9.30 Aerobics 10.00 Spainsh Foolball 12.00 Aerobius 12.30pm Foolball Special 2.30 Football League Review 3.00 V-Mex 3.30 Total Sport 4.00 Gol 5.00 World Wrestling Federation: Live Wire 6,00 Sports Centre 5.30 Insute Scottish Football 7.30 Live Super League 10.00 Sports Centre 10.15 You're On Sky Sports! 11.00 Inside Scorish Football 12.00 Sports Centre 12.15am You're On Sky Sports! 1.00 Super League 2.30 Inside Scotlish Football 3.30 Sports Centre 3.45 Close

SKY SPORTS 2

7.00am Aerobics 7.30 Sports Centre 7.45 Racing News 8.15 Molo-Plus 8.45 Sports Centre 9.00 Fish TV 10.00 Snow Show 10,30 Total Sport 11,00 Super League 12.00 World Motor Sport 3.00pm Live Cricket 10.00 Golf 11.00 Sports Unlimited 12.00 Fastrax 12.30em Total Sport 1.00 Got 2.00 Sports Centre 2.15 Close

12.00am World Wrestling Federation. Live Wire 1.00pm Fish TV 2.00 Live Snooker 5.00 Rebel Sports 5.30 Fastrex 6.00 Sports Unlimited 7.00 Live Snooker 10.00 Bowing Superbouts 17.00 Tales from the Premiership 11,30 Close

Cursing 4.00 Football 7.30 Strongmen 8.30

7.00am Crossroads 7.30 Neighbours 7.55 EastEnders 8.30 The Bit 9.00 The Bit 9.30 The House of Eliott 10.30 Rhoda 11.00 Dates 11.65 Neighbours 12.25pm EastEnders 1.00 Bugs 2.00 Dallas 2.55 The Bill 3.25 The Bill 3.55 EastEnders 4.30 Phoda 5.00 All Creatures Great and Small 5.00 Dynasty 7.00 Ever Decreasing Circles 7.40 Lact of the Summer Wine 8.20 Dad's Army 9.00 Red Dwarf 9.46 Come Traveller 10.50 Red Dwart 11.30 The Bill 12.00 The Bit 12.30sm Between the Lines 1.25 Dad's Army 2.00 The Man from Aunte 5.00

GRANADA PLUS 5.00em Wohen These Walls 7.00 How's Your Father 7.30 The Odd Couple 8.00 Families 8.30 Mind Your Language 9.00 Classic Coronation Street 9.30 Emmerdale 10.00 Upstairs. Downslains 11.00 Charle's Angels 12.00 Classic Coronation Singer 12.30pm Emmerdale 1.00 Mayd Your Language 1.30 Me and My Girl 2.00 Upstairs, Downstairs 3.00 The Love Boat 4.00 The Professionals 5.00 Charle's Angels 6.00 Emmerdate 6.30 Classic Coronation Street 7.00 The Professionals

SKY SPORTS 3

EUROSPORT 7,30am Live Swimming 9.00 Football 11.00 Football 12.30 Football 2.30 Live

Boxing 9.30 Football 11.00 US Golf 12.00 Olympic Magazine 12.30am Close **UK GOLD**

Shopping with Screenshop

8.00 The Benny Hill Show 9.00 The Sweeney 10.00 Hale and Pace 10.30 The Cornections 11.00 Men and Motors



The Usual Suspects, Brian Singer and Christopher McQuarrie's award-winning crime thriller (FilmFour, 10.05pm)

CARLTON SELECT

5.00pm What's Cooking? 5.30 Gndlock 6.00 My Two Wives 6.30 Our House 7.00 Shine On, Harvey Moon 8.00 Chancer 9.00 Upper Hand 9.30 Flying Start 10.00 Peak Practice 11.00 Hill Street Blues 12.00 My Two Wives 12,30am Gndlock 1.00 Close DISNEY CHANNEL

8.00am Gummi Bears 8.25 Classic Toons 6.35 Tale Son 7.00 Classic Toons 7.10 Aladdin 7.35 (0) Dalmatians 8.00 Gool Troop 8.25 Classic Toons 8.30 Timon and Pumbaz 9.00 Art Atlack 9.35 Doug 10.00 Recess 10.16 Pepper Ann 10.30 Ned's Newt 11.00 Smart Guy 11.30 Teen Angel 12.00 Boy Meets World 12.30pm Brotherly Love 1.00 Dinosaurs 1.30 Amazing Animals 1.55 New Adventures of Winnie the Pooh 2.10 Bite Size 2.20 Bear in the Big Blue House 2.45 New Adventures of Winnie the Pooh 3.00 The Little Mermaid 3.30 Art Allact 4.00 101 Daimalians 4.30 Hercules

The TV Show 5.00 Recess 5.15 Pepper Ann

5.30 Smart Guy 6.00 Teen Angel 6.30 Boy

Meets World 7.00 FYLM: Labyrintis (1986)

8.40 Honey I Shrunk the Kids. The TV Show 9.30 Dinosaurs 10.00 Home Improvement 10.30 Wonder Years 11.00 Dr Quinn Medicine Woman 11.50 Classic Toons **12.00 Close**

8.00am Masked Rider 6.30 Beetleborgs

Metalik 6.55 Power Rangers Turbo 7.20

FOX KIDS NETWORK

Power Rangers Turbo Z.45 Silver Surier 8.10 Morial Kombat 8.35 Mowgii. The New Adventures of Jungle Book 9.00 Googebumps 9.25 Earle Indiana: The Other Dimension 9.50 Oggy and the Cockroaches 10.00 Goosebumps 10.25 Med Jack the Pirate 10.40 The Secret Files of the Spy Dogs 10.50 Oggy and the Cockroaches 11.00 Guosebumps 11.25 Dennis and Gnasher 11.50 Opgy and the Cockroaches 12.00 Goosebumos 12.25pm The incredible Hulk 12.50 Dggy and the Cockroaches 1.00 Goosebumps 1.25 Fanlastic Four 1.50 Oppy and the Cockroaches 2.00 Goosebumps 2.25 X-Men 2.50 O any and the Cockrosches 3.00 Goosebumps 3.30 X-Press 3.35 Soderman 4.00 Gooseburnos 4.25 Hero

Turties The Next Mutation 5.00 Dennis and Grasher 5.30 Ace Ventura 5.00 Donkey Kong Country 6.30 EekiStravaganza 6.55 Oggy and the Cockroaches 7.00 Close

NICKELODEON 6.00cm Brothers Fub 7.00 Azahhi Real Monsters 8.00 Caldog 9.00 Rugraia 10.00 The Wild Thornberrys 11.00 Sabrina the Teenage Witch Wilch 12.00 Moecha 1.00 Reniord Rejects 2.00 Hey Amold! 3.00 Rugrais 3.30 Rugrais 4.00 Rugrais 4.30 Sister Sister 5.00 Sabrina the Teenage Which 7.00 Close

TROUBLE 7.00am USA High 8.00 Saved by the Belt The New Class 9.00 Hang Time 10.00 Sweet Valley High 11.00 Saved By the 8et. The College Years a 12.00 The Fresh Prince of Bel-Air 1.00pm Saved By the Bell-Wedding in Las Vegas 3.00 City Guys 4.00 Wend Science 5.00 in the House 6.00 Rush 7.15 Bangs 7.30 USA High

8.00pm Martial Law 9.00 Cops 9.30 The Late Lounge 10.00 Extreme Championship Wrestling 10.36 Erous Confessions 11.00 FILM: To Live and Die in LA (1965) 1.15am Erolic Conlessions 1.45 The Late Lounge 2.15 Martial Law 3.15 FILM: Come Play with Me (1977) 5.15 Short 5.30 Cops PARAMOUNT COMEDY

BRAVO

7.00pm Clueless 7.30 Caroline in the City 8.00 Mad About You 8.30 Spin City 9.00 Drop the Dead Donkey 9.36 Whose Line is il Anyway? 10.00 Frasier 10.30 Cheers 11.00 Seinleid 11.30 Late Night with David Letterman 12.30em The Larry Senders Show 1.00 Garry Shandling's Show 1.30 Nurses 2.00 Almost Perfect 2.30 Tibs and Fibs 3.00 Mork and Mindy 3.30 Abbott and Costello 4.00 Close

THE SCI-FI CHANNEL SATELLITE: Som-MEDNEGHT ONLY 7.30am Bicomberg Information Television 8.00 Sightness 9.00 Buck Rogers in the 25th Century 10.00 The Sax Million Dollar Man 11,00 Dark Shadows 11.30 New Alfred Hirchcock 12.00 The Twinght Zone

12.30pm The Twiight Zone 1.00 Tales of

the Unexpected 7.30 Tales of the

Unexpected 2.00 Amazing Stones 2.30

Rogers in the 25th Century 4.00 The Incredible Hull 5.00 Sightings 6.00 Time Trax 7.00 The Six Million Dollar Man 8.00 V 9.00 Twn Peaks 10.00 Fil.M: Maximum Overdrive (1986) 12.00 PSI Factor: Chronicles of the Paranormal 1.00mm FILM: Dracula's Widow (1989) 2.35 Sci-Focus Special 3.00 Dark Shadows 3.30 Dark Shadows 4.00 Close

Mystenes, Magic and Mracles 3.00 Buck

HOME & LEISURE 6.00am Simply Painting 6.30 Instant

Gardens 7.00 Garden Calendar 7.30 The Restoration Game 8.00 Australia Strangest Home Improvements 8.30 The Close Guide 9.00 The Joy of Painting 9.30 Grassroots 10.00 Instant Gardens 10.30 Antiques Trail 11.00 Hooked on Fishing with Paul Young 11,25 The Home and Leisure House 11,30 Total Fishing with Matt Hayes 12.00 These Four Walls 12.30pm Our House Down Under 1.00 The Furniture Guys 1.30 Home Home Again with Bob Vila 3.00 This Old House with Steve and Norm 3.30 Two's

4.00pm Res Hunt Fishing Adventures 4.30 The Dicemen 5.00 Best of British 6.00 Wildlife SOS 6.30 Untarried Amazonia 7.30 Flightline 8.00 Black Box 9.00 Crocodile Hunter 10.00 Speed 11.00 Extreme

DISCOVERY

Flichtime 1.30 The Diceman 2.00 Close ANIMAL PLANET 12.00am Hollywood Salan 1.00pm Hunters of the Coral Real 1.30 Ocean Wilds: Galapagos 2.00 Grants of the Moditerranean 3.00 Shark! 4.00 Two Worlds 4.30 Champions of the Wild 5.00 Wildlife Rescue 6.00 Pet Rescue 7.00 Wildlife SOS 7.30 Wildlife SOS 8.00 Animal Doctor 9.00 Emergency Vala 9.30 Emergency Vets 10.00 Emergency Vets

Machines 12.00 Betty's Voyage 1.00am

Vets 11.30 Emergency Vets 12.00 Close **NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC** 7.00pm The Gatherers from the Sky 7.30 Tree kandaroo 8.30 The Third Planet 9.00 Natural Born Killers: Eagles — Shadows on the Wing 10.00 The Shark Files Great White - in Search of the Glant 11.00 Wildlife Adventures: African Garden of Eden

12,00 The Shark Files: Danger Beach

HISTORY 4.00pm Secrets of War The Gull War -

Steel Rain 5.00 Tankers 6.00 Ramses Favourile of the Gods 7.00 Playback, Jilly Cooper 7.30 Bomb to the Beetles: I. Witness -- Lifting the Gloom CARLTON FOOD 9.00am Food Network Daily 9.30 Coxon's Michen College 10.00 The Green Gourmei 10.30 Nancy Lam's Wok Wiz 11.00 Wortell

Thompson Cooks 11,30 ideal Home Cooks

12.00 Food Network Daily 12.30pm Loyd's

Louisiana 1.00 Coxon's Kitchen College

1.30 Thoroughly Modern British 2.00

Simply Baking 2.30 Food Network Daily

3.00 Nordic Nosh 3.30 Ideal Home Cooks 4.00 Tessa's Tastebuds 4.30 Lunch with Ed Baines 5.00 Cluse

6.00am Can'i Cook, Won't Cook 6.30 Animal Rescue 7.00 Prolessor Bubble 7.25 Califor 7.30 Police Dot Shorts 7.40 Johnson and Friends 7.50 Babaloos 7.55 Practical Parenting 8.00 Barney and Friends 8.25 My Zoo 8.30 Tiny and Crew 8.50 Practical Parenting 9.00 Special Babies 9.30 Home and Away 10.00 The Jerry Springer Show 10.60 Maury Povich 11.40 Brockside 12.10pm Through the Keyhole 12.40 Rescue 911 1.10 Beyond Belief. Fact or Fiction 1.40 Maury Povich 2.30 Special Babies 3.00 The Jerry Springer Show 3.50 Michael Cole 4.40 Home and Away 5.10 Through the Keyhole 5.40 Can't Cook. Won't Cook 6.15 The Jerry S pringer Show 7.05 Rescue 911 7.35 Animai Rescue 8.00

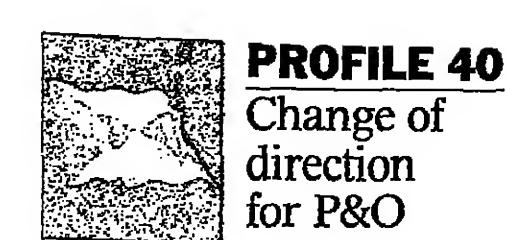
5.00mm Punjabi Folk Songs 5.30 Old is Gold 8.00 Aap KI Farmaish 8.30 Usha Uthap Show 7.00 Faith 7.30 Daily News

LA Law 9.00 FILM: Shooting Elizabeth

(1992) 11.00 Sextasy! 12.00 Close

ZEE TV

8.00 Out and About 8.30 Tara 2 9.00 Hasratein 10.00 Stage Plays 11.00 Khana 10.30 Emergency Vets 11.00 Emergency Khazana 11.30 Parampara 12.00 FILM 3.00pm Bangle TV 3.30 One Magic 4.00 Filmi Chakkar 4.30 Zee Top 10 5.30 Aashiwad 6.00 Mama Mya 6.30 Humm Tara Rum 7.00 Do Aur Do Paanch 7.30 Chelo Cinema 8.00 News 8.30 Teacher 9.00 Zee Addicts 9.30 Zanjeeren 10.00 Hadd Kar Di 10.30 Mahabharat 11.30 Yaadon Ke Rang 12.00 News 12.30em Pakistan Business Week 1.00 Bandla TV 1.30 Parwartan 2.00 Fil.M 4.30 Lolly-Pop



DEBT CRISIS 42 Zimbabwe on brink of financial ruin



BUSINESS EDITOR Patience Wheatcroft

TUESDAY APRIL 6 1999

New issues dry up in first quarter as investors shun smaller stocks

Flotations fall to ten-year low



Mackay: floated brewer

By Paul Armstrong

THE number of flotations on the London Stock Exchange has slumped to its lowest level for more than ten years, even though share prices have risen to an all-time high.

Just ten issues joined the stock market in the three months to the end of March, according to a survey by KPMG Corporate Finance. Six of these were investment trusts.

Yesterday KPMG gave warning that the situation was unlikely to improve this year. Neil Austin, head of new issues at KPMC, said the flight of investment capital away from

smaller stocks would probably cause the number of quoted companies going private to double from last year's num-

He said this figure would be much higher if the mechanics of privatisation were not so difficult. But Mr Austin said fears were also growing among institutions that some managers were playing down their company's prospects to enable management buyouts to be made at a more tavourable price.

He said a recent corporate governance survey by KPMG had revealed that fund managers were increasingly looking to non-executive directors as a

way to ensure that smaller companies' share prices were not deliberately restrained. The ten flotations in the

March quarter compares with 12 in the previous correspond-ing period and 73 for the same time in 1994. Those companies that joined the quoted sector in the past

three months include Yeoman II Investment Trust, which raised £35.8 million, Jupiter Enhanced Income Investment Trust (£47.7 million), Close Brothers Development (£4.3) million), Gander Properties (introduction), Acorn Income Fund (El2 million), The Enhanced Zero Trust (£60 mil-

lion). Synstar (£96 million). South African Breweries (£300 million) led by Graham Mackay, chief executive. Axon Group (£13.8 million) and Morse Holdings (£145 million). The figures exclude the April 1 listing of Canary Wharf, which

Buyout proposals announced recently include Hall Engineering (£82.8 million). Goldsmiths (£43.9 million) and Rebus (£172 million).

raised £551 million.

The surging popularity of index tracker funds has seen fund managers abandon smaller and many mediumsized companies in favour of their bigger listed counter-

parts. The trend has exacerbated the problem of poor liquidity at the junior end of the market, where institutions fear they will be unable to sell a holding without severely de-

pressing the share price.
It has also raised concerns about a shortage of development capital for emerging companies.

Mr Austin said a small part of the junior sector's plight could be blamed on a cyclical flected a fundamental shift in investment priorities.

While institutions acknowledged that shares in some smaller companies were good

value, it took too much time and money to identify them.

He said the poor market for smaller flotations would eventually deter venture capital groups from funding some buyouts because this avenue for exiting the investment was narrowing.

However, the lack of interest in smaller stocks could also provide an opportunity for those venture capitalists with a longer-term view.

Mr Austin said they could retain their investment while the company grew to a point where it attracted fund managers, providing scope for a substantial return.

Markets hope for double rate cut boost

BY ALASDAIR MURRAY **ECONOMICS** CORRESPONDENT

FINANCIAL markets hope for a double boost this week, with both the Bank of England and the Europe an Central Bank(ECB) tipped to cut interest rates In Britain the business trends survey of the Engineering Employers' Federation is expected to show the engineering industry, comprising 5,000-plus companies employing 1.5 million,

slipped deeper into recession in the first quarter. The ECB has softened its rate stance recently, with senior members of the governing board apparently emphasising the risks of a slowdown in the European economy. The Bank of England's Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) and the ECB will announce their decisions on Thursday.

A majority of City economists expect the MPC to cut rates by a quarter point because of the continued strength of the pound and lower than expected fourth quarter GDP growth.

Survey evidence has suggested that the European economy is rapidly slowing, while inflation remains subdued. The resignation of Oskar Lafontaine. German Finance Minister, also removed a perceived political obstacle to rate cuts.

The ECB has come under pressure from international institutions in recent weeks to consider a rate cut. Last week the European Commission cut its euroland growth forecast from 26 per cent to 2.2 per cent. while the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development and the International Monetary Fund executive board indicated that they felt that the ECB has room to reduce rates.

US policymakers want Europe to adopt a more expansionary policy to ensure that the US does not have to take the whole strain of trying to stimulate global growth. However, some economists feel that, with the euro trading close to record lows, the ECB will leave rates at 3 per cent.

Dow surges above 10,000

FROM ANDREW BUTCHER IN NEW YORK

BETTING against an interest rate rise in the near future, US investors pushed the key Dow Jones industrial average above 10.000 again yesterday.

The market surged from the opening after an employment report, released last Friday, showed the lowest jobless rate since 1970 combined with low wage rises. The report was viewed as harmless to interest rates and encouraging for corporate earnings.

Bruce Steinberg, chief economist at Merrill Lynch, said: "The US economy remains robust and the corporate earnings outlook is improving."

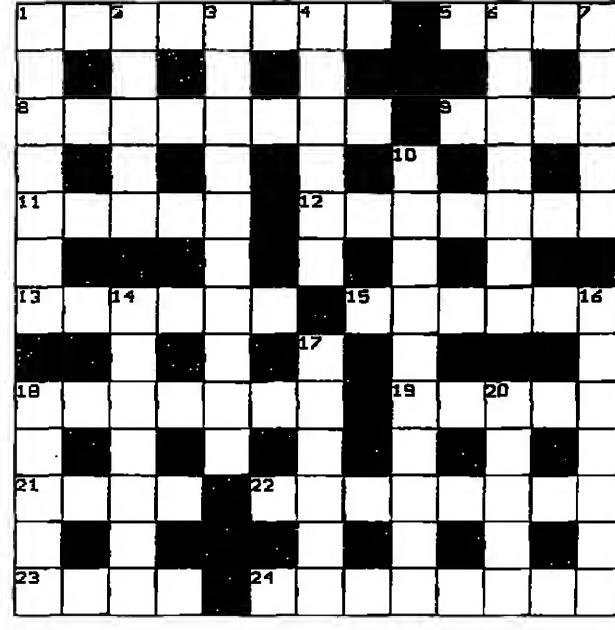
General Electric soared to a new high, while most of the other 29 companies that make up the Dow also rose. General

Electric's market capitalisation is the largest of any Dow company. Only Microsoft, which is listed on the Nasdaq market, is worth more.

The Nasdaq index, with a membership rich in technology companies, rocketed towards a record level as investors bought Internet and computer stocks with renewed relish.

Yahoo!, the leading Internet search site, powered ahead more than 10 per cent to within a whisker of a record high as analysts revised the company's earnings estimates.

America Online, the world's most popular Internet service provider and one of the stock market's best performers in recent years, also continued its bull market run.



No 1684

DOWN

2 Set of steps (5)

(Mikado) (4-3)

16 Passed on, along (7)

18 Bounds, scope (5)

20 Later than (5)

17 Multi-storeyed temple (6)

beth) (6,4)

14 Backing (7)

1 (Appearance) vandalised (7)

3 It came to Dunsinane (Mac-

4 Unprovoked; lascivious (6)

6 Lord High Everything Else

7 — Allan Poe: Lear beggar (5)

10 In which are one's best cards

ACROSS 1 Exhausted-soil disaster (4,4) 5 Church recess (4)

8 Perfumed (8) 9 Pine; extended (4) 11 Papal court (5)

12 Trafalgar month (?) 13 Repudiate (6) 15 Trouble: take trouble (6) 18 Big Greek jar (7)

19 Holy quest object (5) 21 Prosperous period; explosive noise (4) 22 Flirtatious behaviour (8)

23 Yugoslav dictator once (4) 24 Taken into custody (8)

SOLUTION TO NO 1683 ACROSS: I Cocked 4 Outer 8 Let up 9 Unequal 10 Rue 11 Ochre 12 Shampoo 14 Thrash 16 Sonnet 20 Estella 23 Fiche 24 Nil 25 Iranian 26 Igloo 27 Ditty 28 Beheld DOWN: 1 Call of the wild 2 Catcher 3 Empress 4 Opera 5 Trump 6 Rule of the road 7 Guest 13 Man 15 Ace

17 Off-line 18 Nacelle 19 Canny 21 Trait 22 Laity

SOLUTION TO EASTER SATURDAY TIMES TWO JUMBO ACROSS: I Debade 5 Illustrator 11 Thrusts 15 Apartheid 16 Durrell 17 Bête noire 18 Respray 19 Necktie 20 Pain-killing 21 The wish is father to the thought 23 Catalonia 25 Turn the tide 27 Foyer 29 Contributor 31 Gambol 32 Hispanic 35 Pre-empt 37 Eternity 38 Hard-bitten 40 Swiss chard 41 Tribunal 42 Upgrade 44 Obelisks 45 Castle 46 Rationalise 49 Envoi 51 Thunderclap 53 Boot sales 55 Triumph of hope over experience 58 Sleeping car 60 Dunedin 61 Sterile 62 Advertise 63 Porcine 64 Daintiest

65 Earmark 66 Tastelessly 67 Soybean DOWN: I Diacritic 2 Brassie 3 Caterpillar 4 Everything but the kitchen sink 5 Indonesia 6 Lady Chatterley 7 Stretcher 8 Roe deer 9 Telephone box 10 Rubbish bin 1) To take the wind out of one's sails 12 Renal 13 Smilingly 14 Sleight 22 Offspring 24 Tangerine 26 Timetable 28 Reconvene 29 Copestone 30 Theory 31 Generator 33 Nathaniel 34 Hamlet 36 Mysticism 39 Unpreparedness 43 Cardiographs 47 Abstinently 48 Sufficient 50 Voice-over 52 Levantine 53 Boxing Day 54 Steventon 55 Testate 56 Endorse 57 Naivete 59 Parma



MORE than 150,000 people have made inquiries to National Savings about the individual savings account (Isa). the new tax-free savings scheme that will go on sale for the first time today (Caroline Merrell writes).

The Isa will replace personal equity plans (Peps) and taxexempt special savings accounts (Tessas). According to Flying start expected for Isa

National Savings, the level of inquiries is much higher than expected. Peter Bareau, chief executive of National Savings, said: "Since we began advertising Isas on television and in the press, inquiries have been coming in at the

rate of over 2,000 per day. We are expecting a heavy demand."

According to research by MORI for Newton, the fund manager, about 15 per cent of adults in Britain think they will invest in the Isa in the first half of this tax year. The 15 per cent equates to 6.75 million adults and compares with the 8 per cent who intended to invest in Peps during the same period last year.

In-house research by Newton revealed that one in five of

LVMH and Gucci will meet tomorrow as the two rival luxu-

ry goods companies seek a res-

olution to their £4.9 billion bid

battle (Martin Barrow writes).

LVMH chairman, is expected

to give full details of his offer.

Gucci will then consider the

bid in the following days, de-

ciding whether or not to rec-

LVMH had previously not

intended to buy the whole com-

pany, merely to gain represen-

ration on the board. But Gucci

forced its hand by sealing a

deal with Pinault-Printemps-

Redoute, the French retailer.

for it to take a 40 per cent stake.

year when LVMH, which num-

bers Givenchy perfume and

Moet & Chandon champagne

among its products, built up a

The battle started early this

ommend it to shareholders.

Bernard Arnault, the

its customers actually intended to invest more in an Isa than they did in a Pep. suggesting that the Isa has been accepted by investors. Overall, investors aim to

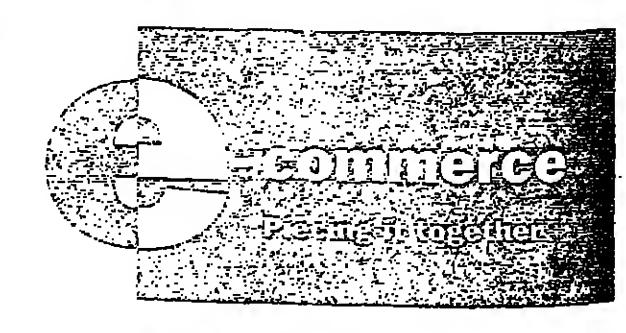
save an average of £2,212 in Isas in the first six months. However, individuals nearing retirement have more to invest and say they will save £4,258 on average.

Getting any business started with e-commerce applications requires the skills and support

of more than one company.

This is why Sun Microsystems has forged alliances with leading e-commerce organisations to

help its customers.



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LVMH and News Corp to unveil Gucci bid \$2.1bn Liberty deals showdown

FROM ANDREW BUTCHER IN NEW YORK

THE News Corporation, the global media group, is today expected to announce two deals worth \$2.1 billion (£1.3 billion) with Liberty Media, the US sports broadcasting

News Corp is set to acquire Liberty's 50 per cent interest in Fox/Liberty Networks, a joint venture with News Corp. for about \$1.4 billion in non-voting News Corp stock. In addition, Liberty is expected to buy about \$700 milfrom MCI WorldCom. the US long-distance phone company. MCI bought a stake in News Corp in 1995 as part of a business relationship. However, MCI's strategy has changed since its merger with WorldCom.

News Corporation owns

News International, the parent company of The Times. Fox/Liberty Networks is a sports business that was formed in 1995 to challenge the ESPN network that had

Malone chairman of Liberty

dominated sports broadcasting in America. Liberty, now a subsidiary of AT&T, is chaired by John Malone. When the two deals have been completed Liberty will

become the third-largest shareholder in News Corp with an interest of 7.5 per Rupert Murdoch, the chairman and chief executive, and

other family members control about 30 per cent of the company's shares, while the Capital Group owns 8.5 per cent. Several Wall Street analysts viewed Mr Malone's interest in investing in News Corp as a significant vote of confidence in the company. The company's American Depositary Receipts rose sharply during trading in New York yesterday.

35 per cent stake and asked for a seat in the boardroom.

Budget changes force up cost to employers

Medical cover fear for staff

BY CAROLINE MERRELL

EMPLOYERS face a 22 per cent increase in the cost of providing private medical insurance because of changes introduced in the Budget, according to new research. William M Mercer, the employee bene-

fit consultant, believes that the increased costs will prompt employers to withdraw or curtail private medical insurance offered to employees. Some four million employees are covered by company schemes. The sharp increase in costs is blamed on rising premium costs and changes in national insurance. In last month's Bud-

get Gordon Brown, the Chancellor, added

a percentage point to insurance premium

tax (IPT), bringing it to 5 per cent, and changed the rules so that employers now have to pay NI on the benefit for employees. Steve Clements, of William M Mercer. said: "In the first instance, employers" national insurance contributions and the rise in IPT will push up the costs by over 12 per cent."

Mr Clements also believes that the medical inflation, which far outstrips the prevailing inflation rate, will eventually add to the costs for employers.

William Laing, a parmer of Laing and Buisson, the specialist healthcare analyst, said employers will be under pressure to pass on costs to employees. He said: "The majority of employees, around 59 per

cent, do not have to pay anything towards their schemes: the rest do." Mr Clements said employers would

have difficulty in simply abandoning schemes as costs rise. "It is one of the most highly valued benefits and many employees make regular use of it," he said. "So it is not easy to say I'm withdrawing it. buy your own cover."

David Bryant, a spokesman for BUPA, the private healthcare firm that reported a fall in profits last week, said: "I do not disagree with the 22 per cent figure, but I say that it is speculative. We have not yet decided what we are going to do with our premiums, but we will be deciding this summer."

